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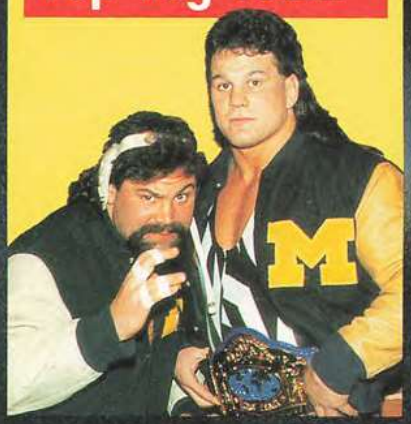

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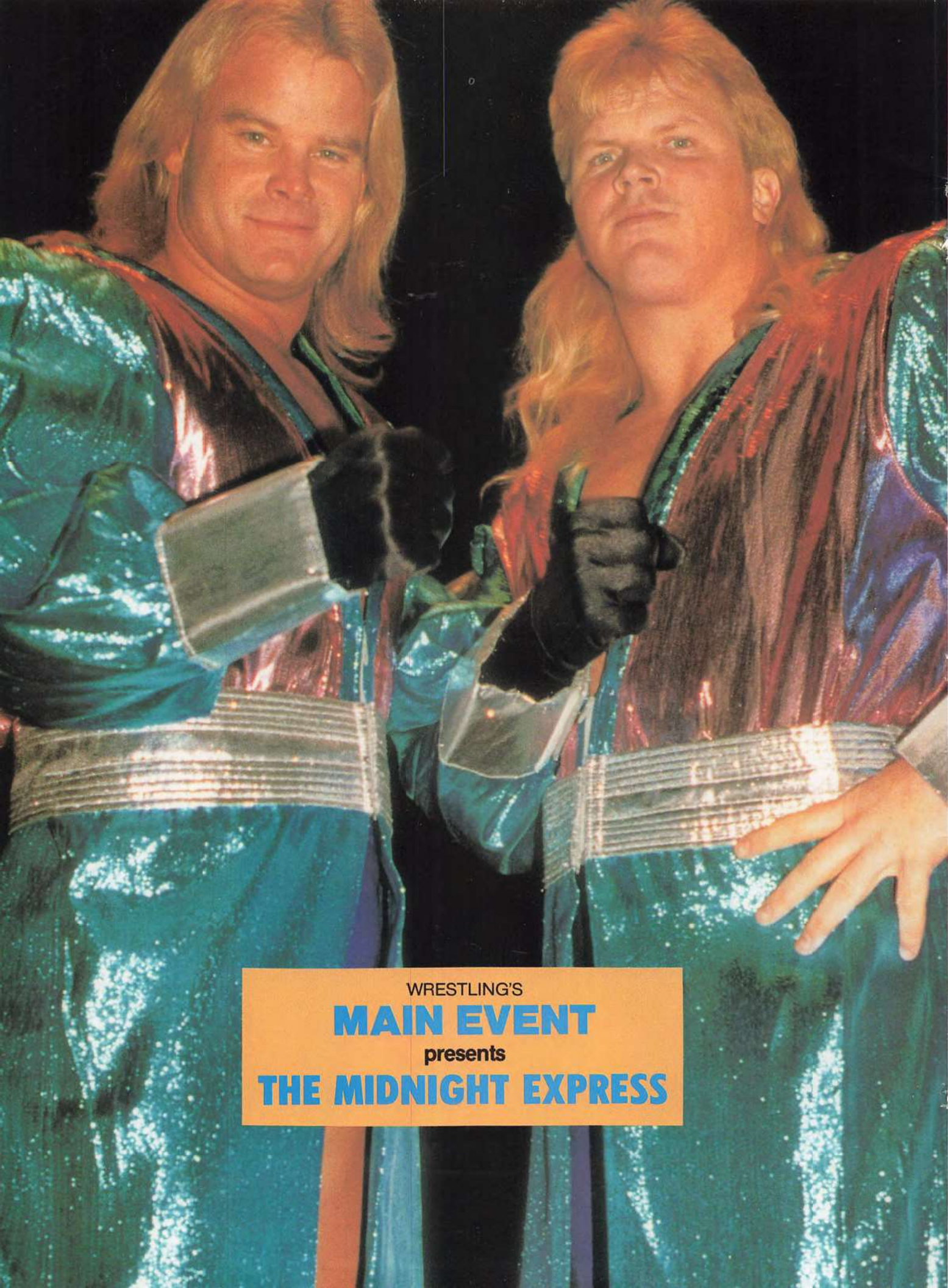

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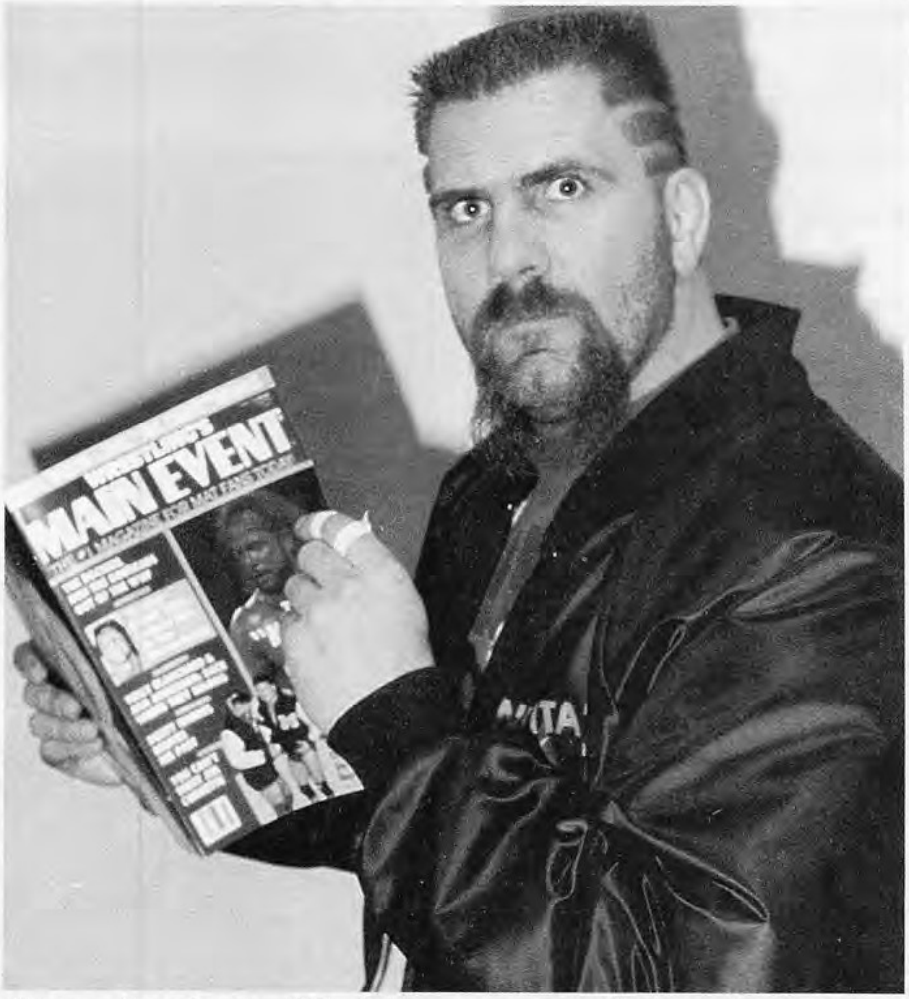

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Editor
SANDY KREBS

Art Director
ARTHUR INKWELL

Associate Editor/ Director of Photography
STEVE PFEFFER

Contributing Editors
OX BAKER
LORD JONATHAN BOYD

Staff Writers
JIM ARONSON
SIR JOHNATHAN BAINE
CHRIS BALLEW
KEITH CURTIS
JOEL EISENBERG
CARLIE GILL
DON LAIBLE
DAWN LOCKWOOD
AL McGINESS
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Contributing Photographers
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STU KEMP
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BOB BIRMINGHAM

Cover by John Barrett & Debra Moser
Inside Front Cover by Debra Moser
Centerfold by John Barrett
Back cover by Joe Zanolle

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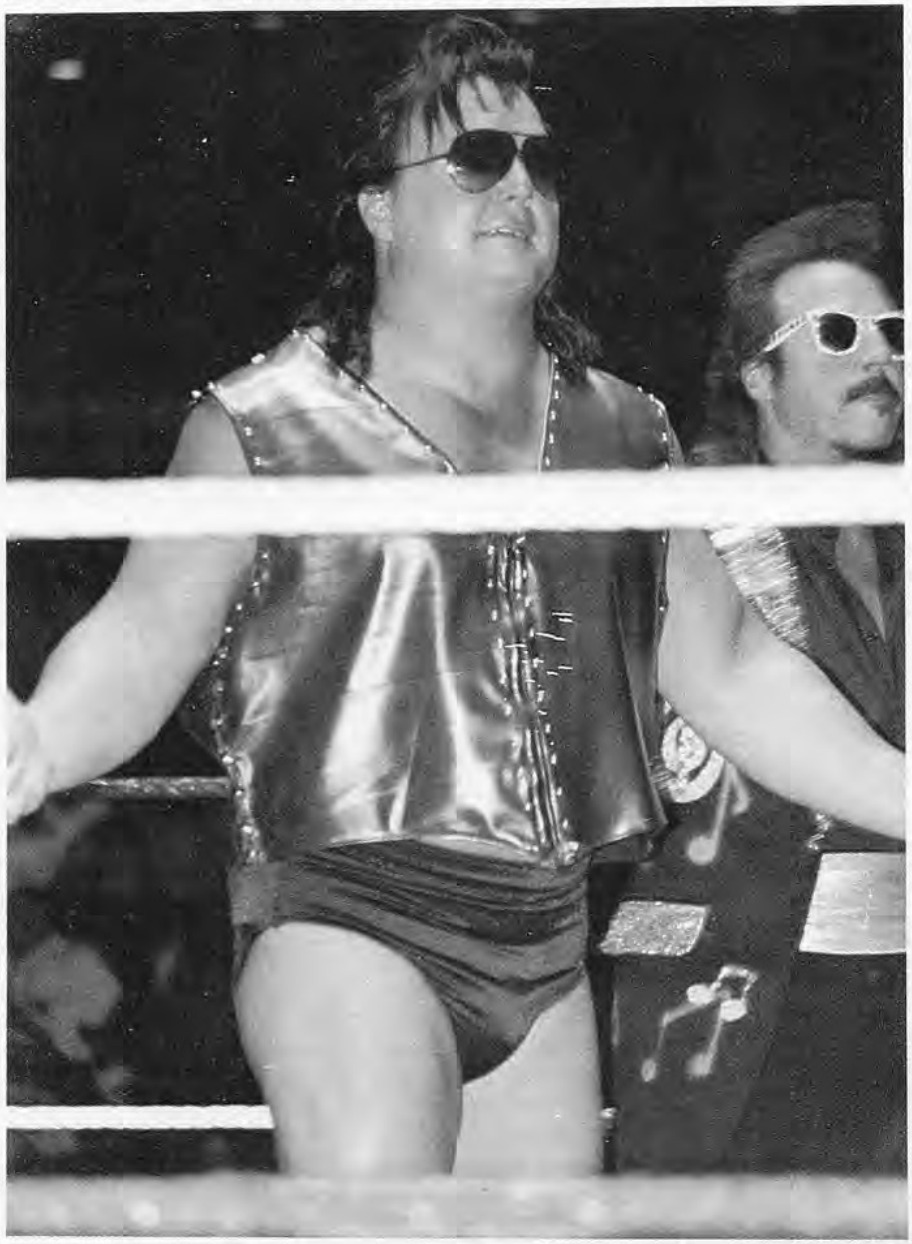
EDITOR'S CORNER

The torch has been passed, the future has been determined, The Ultimate Warrior is the WWF's "Hulk Hogan" of the '90's. The promotion will be based around this cartoonish super-hero for children aged ten and under, as the WWF steers more towards the live-action Saturday morning kid's TV show it wants to be, rather than the sport appealing to all ages that most wrestling promotions want to be. Unfortunately, for wrestling purists, The Warrior is an even worse choice for World Champion than Hogan was. The Ultimate Warrior has absolutely no wrestling ability, no scientific knowledge of the sport and is not as physically fit as the WWF would like people to believe. His statements on his interviews are totally inane, as he implies he comes from "outer space", is not a "normal human being" as Hulk Hogan and the other "normals" are and is on a quest which his masters have given him to do. What this title change has shown the world, and wrestling fans in general, is that anyone watching WWF wrestling who is over the age of ten, shouldn't be. After all, how many "mature" people watch Saturday morning cartoons, read comic books or do those things that four to ten-year-olds do?? This is not to say being a ten-year-old is bad, it is just to say that WWF wrestling is not a sport, should not be perceived as one and those fans who are watching their product because they believe it to be sport are definitely in the wrong here. Wrestling as sport is presented by the NWA, AWA, USWA, Northwest Wrestling and the various small, independent wrestling federations around North America. Wrestling as cartoons and camp-comedy is presented by the WWF, and meant to be done that way, it is no accident. The WWF is meant to appeal to children because they are the ones who buy the highly expensive merchandise which keeps this promotion going, plus, whereas an adult can buy a ticket to the matches and go alone, a child cannot, therefore if they wish to attend a WWF "wrestling" card they must be accompanied by an adult, so the WWF sells two tickets, at least, to a child and to an adult, who probably has no interest in wrestling, except to keep his child happy. This results in the "full" arenas you see in the WWF. Kids don't know the difference in what's good and bad and getting your money's worth for a product, most adults do. That's why at wrestling shows around the country, the WWF audience is significantly younger than any other promotion's audience. As the kids get older and wiser, they move on to bigger and better things, however there is a younger generation which will take their place at the WWF matches and the beat goes on and on. . .ad nauseum and the wrestling business suffers as a result.

* * * * * *

As long as we are on the topics of cartoons and buffoonism, I never expected to see Greg Valentine sell out his athletic career, and a proud one at that, for the big money he had been making in the WWF circus. But, this past February, who was it I saw on my TV with dyed black hair, strumming a guitar and lip-synching along to The Honky Tonk Man's theme music, but the ex-"Hammer" Greg Valentine. Just last issue we proclaimed Greg Valentine would make an excellent fourth Horseman, but not anymore! In a last gasp to save a fading career, this former NWA World Tag Team Champion, NWA U.S. Heavyweight Champion, WWF Inter-Continental Champion and World Tag Team Champion (when those belts still meant something in the wrestling game), turned himself into a clownish cartoon character and lost the respect of every wrestling fan world-wide. Greg, you once were one of the very best, in the last five years, in the WWF, you have turned into a lazy, complacent, overweight, very mediocre wrestler. Your latest career decision you will regret for what is left of your once-proud career. Shame on you, Greg Valentine, shame on you!! —S.K.



Greg, do you need the money that badly to do this to yourself??

PHOTO BY JOE ZANOLLE

LETTERS
To The Editor

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PHOTO BY BOB MILLER

A fan tells Al McGiness why she likes Percy and Eric.

WHY ERIC EMBRY IS #1

Mr. Al McGiness,

I thought I disliked you before, but now you are on the same biased level as Eddie Ellner!! I hated your article on the war between Texas and Tennessee and your bias against Eric Embry! But now my blood is at a boiling point because of March, 1990's issue of WME! You substituted for Ox Baker! You sound like Akbar and Travis! How much do they "appreciate" you when you write your columns? You may call me all the names you want but I am proud to be one of Eric's thousands of fans! If it wasn't for Eric Embry, then the one federation that cares and listens to the people (not to machines like a cash register) would have died and that would have been the most horrible thing in wrestling history! Eric cares, really cares, about the fans, the USWA and Texas (#1) and he fights for what he believes in and it is very hard to find a person who will stand up and fight for what they believe in anymore! It is almost impossible. As you can see, that is if you can read, this Texas-born woman can read and write and has strong feelings on this subject! Texas is a beautiful state and I am proud to be a native-born Texan, but I am even more proud to be a fan of the USWA and Eric Embry!! Thank heavens for Eric! Eric is one heck of a man and he has more heart and determination than all of Akbar's idiots put together! You moron! Everyone has their own opinion but you let your bias show and that is not right. This fan owes Eric a huge debt for all Eric has done— he will always have my love, support and appreciation 10,000,000%! That is just a few reasons why Eric is so well-loved and cared about! Keep up the good work, Eric!!

C.J. Boatman
Caddo, OK

(Al replies: "Who the %$'# is this Eddie Ellner guy?! He can't shine my shoes, whoever he is! Now, what is a "proud native-born Texas woman" doing living in Oklahoma, definitely a step up in class and *they play better football, too!! As for your idol, I hope you don't take after him, and the rest of his Texas fans, and take a bath, or shower, once in a while! Akbar and Travis should be honored for running the midget out of Texas and they deserve the support of wrestling fans world-wide, I am proud to call them good friends!")*

KERRY VS. KEVIN?? NO WAY!!

This letter is in reference to the Kevin vs. Kerry article in the May issue of WME.

First of all, I would like to say your magazine is great! Coverage of the ring-sport is very thorough, except when it comes to an article such as this one.

The Von Erichs are the #1 classiest wrestlers in the business. To think a "jerk" like Terrance Garvin could be an influence on Kevin to go against his own brother would be ludicrous, to say the least!

I have never, in the long time that I've been a Von Erich fan, seen any one of the Von Erichs bow down to any rulebreaker. What makes you think it's going to happen now??

Blood runs thicker than water, especially in the Von Erich family, and I don't believe that Kevin could be that jealous of his own brother, Kerry, and I don't think that this so-called "Beauty" has that powerful of an influence to make Kevin go against Kerry. Kevin is too smart for this kind of garbage and Kerry is way too intelligent to let the "seed of doubt" question Kevin's loyalty to his family.

The personal tragedies the Von Erichs had to endure have tightly bonded the family together, to let the likes of that creep Garvin, put a wedge between them.

As for Terrance Garvin, you're absolutely wrong if you think your scheme is going to work, pal! What goes around, comes around and your plan is going to backfire and you'll be in for a rude awakening!

As for the Von Erichs, they're the greatest! I am confident that nothing, or no one, will destroy the bond they have between each other!

Rocky Bucco
Matawan, NJ

THE FOUR HORSEMEN ARE GARBAGE!!

Ric Flair and the Andersons, you jerks call yourselves the Four Horsemen, but there's only *three* of you, can't you idiots count?! You sure can't wrestle! You're good at cheating, but cheating makes you look cheap and sorry which is really what you are! Ric Flair's the poorest excuse for a World Champion there has ever been! He's gotten himself disqualified for the sake of keeping the title more than any other NWA Champion ever. That's OK, it's going to come back and haunt him. Lex Luger's going to win the title very soon because he's been a fabulous U.S. Champion and now it's time for a real man to hold the World Title, not a punk like Flair! Hey, Ric! Why don't you defend the title against The Road Warriors?? I guess you're too scared or not man enough!

Scott Gibson
Huntsville, AL

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MOVE OVER ROAD WARRIORS! THE STEINERS ARE WRESTLING'S TOP TAG TEAM

by SANDY KREBS

Since winning the NWA World Tag Team Titles in November, the Steiner Brothers, Rick and Scott, have proven to be superior to all the other teams competing in the NWA, including the legendary Road Warriors. Move over Animal and Hawk, your reign is over, the Steiners are the best tag team in wrestling!

The Road Warriors are widely regarded as the greatest tag team the sport of wrestling has ever seen. For six years they have competed with the best and beaten every team that stood in the way. But all good things eventually come to an end, especially in athletic fields, as younger, hungrier stars try to steal the spotlight from the older, established veterans. As in all sports, athletes in wrestling are getting better all the time and take the sport a step farther than the previous generation of young wrestlers who became stars did.

PHOTOS BY DEBRA MOSER, STEVE PFEFFER and JOE ZANOLLE

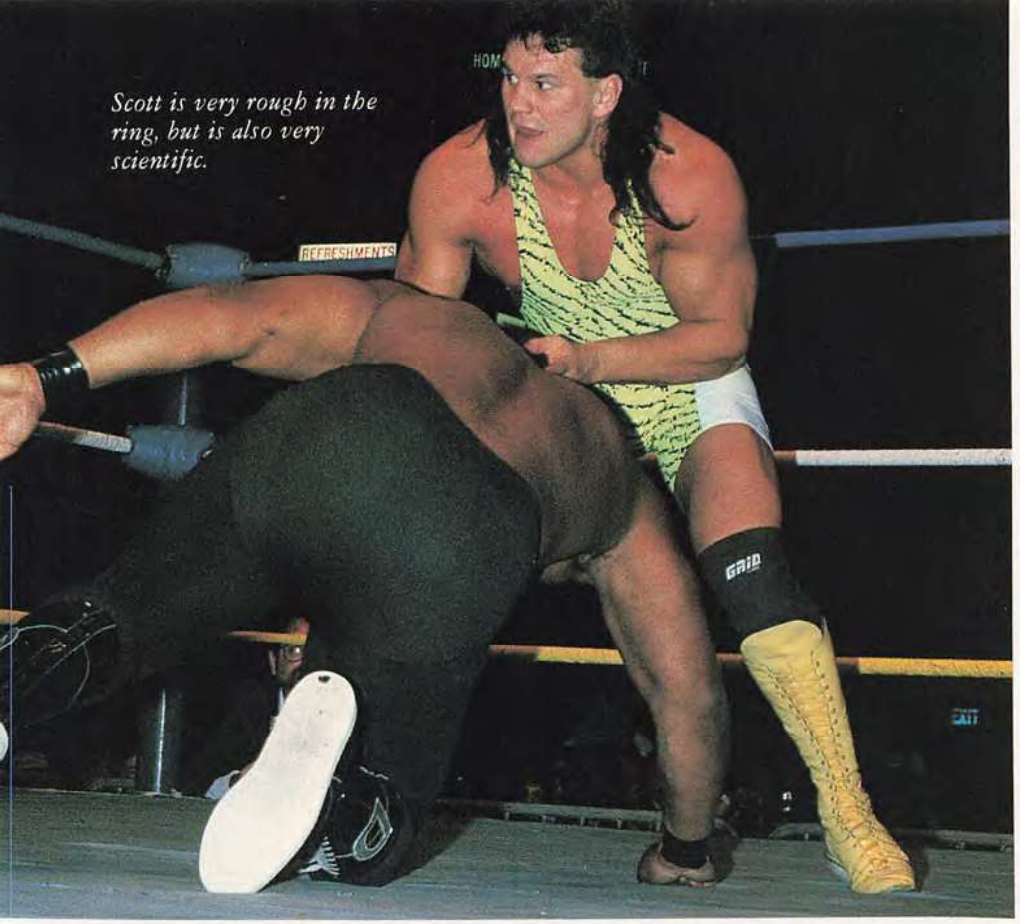
We have recently seen a metamorphosis in tag team wrestling in the NWA, where The Road Warriors ruled for so long. The Steiner Brothers, Rick and Scott, have overtaken the Warriors in skill and popularity and now have to be considered the sport's top tag team and are generally considered to be the "tag team of the '90's" by all the wrestling experts.

Since winning the NWA World Tag Team Titles from The Fabulous Freebirds, Michael Hayes and Jimmy Garvin, last November, the Steiners moved quickly to dominate the tag team scene. The only goal they have set out to do, and failed to achieve, was winning the tag team competition at "Starrcade '89" in Atlanta, but even there they showed the world how good they were, when they became the first tag team to defeat The Road Warriors clean, in the middle of the ring, in America since 1984. Not necessarily in order of achievement, this is what the Steiners have accomplished since that fateful November day:

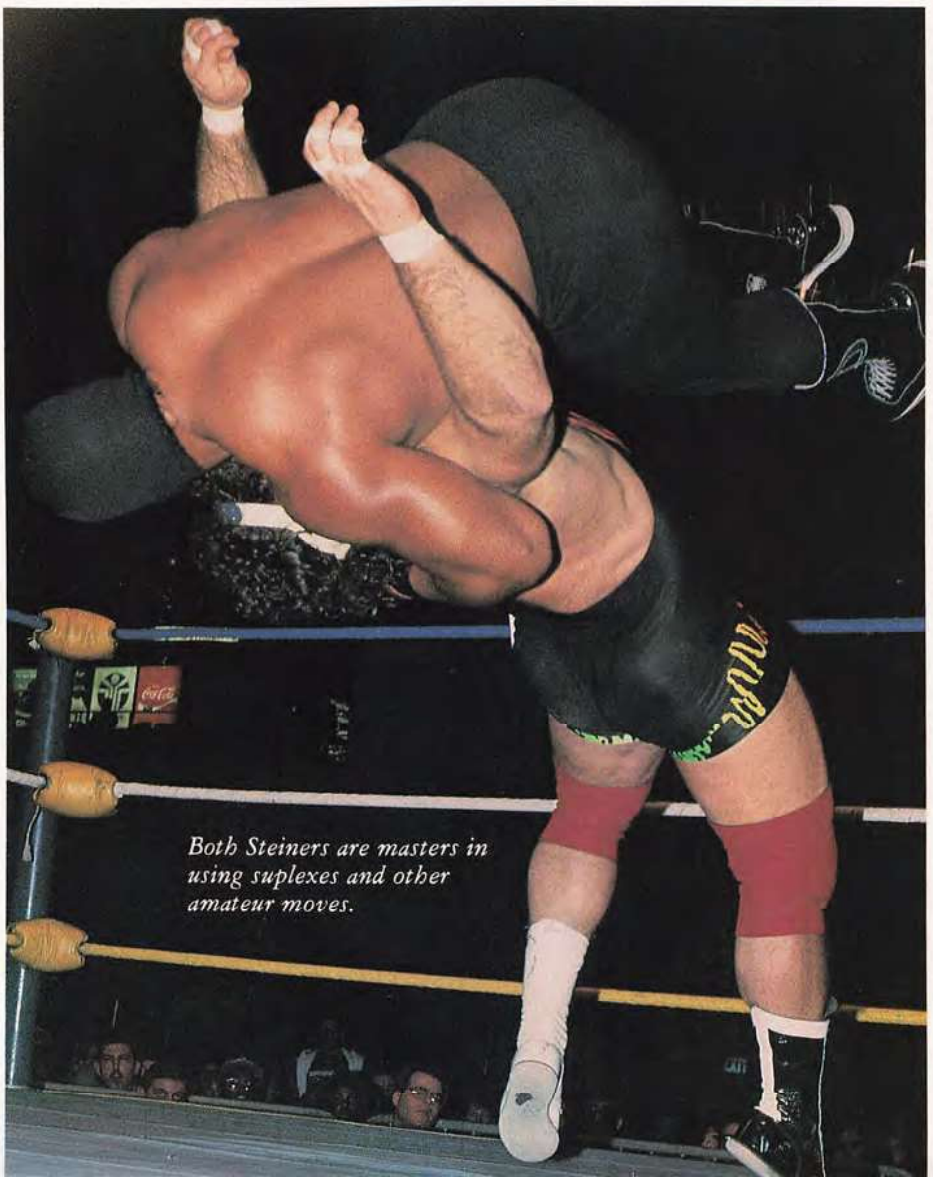
1) Fought off The Freebirds' attempts at regaining the World Belts.

2) Injured Sid Vicious at "Clash of the Champions IX", held in Troy, N.Y., an injury Sid has yet to recover from.

3) Unmasked Doom as Ron Simmons and Butch Reed at "Clash of the Cham-



Scott is very rough in the ring, but is also very scientific.



Both Steiners are masters in using suplexes and other amateur moves.

pions X", which was held in Corpus Christi, Texas.

4) Injured Arn Anderson at "Wrestle-War '90" in Greensboro, N.C., putting Arn's career in severe jeopardy.

5) Injured Ole Anderson severely enough that Ole has retired from active competition and has hired "The Minnesota Wrecking Crew 2" to do his dirty work in the NWA.

6) Both Rick and Scott have become proficient enough in the ring to be seriously considered as top challengers for Ric Flair's World Title, even though they are rarely wrestling in single's matches.

All this in less than six months and more is on the way. Their goal now is to unmask Ole's team and reveal their naked faces to the world for all to see. No one doubts that they will do it, either, it's only a matter of time.

Rick and Scott Steiner combine rough, power move tactics and scientific skill to dominate their opponents. They are two of the roughest wrestlers in the sport today, however they fight cleanly in the ring, not breaking the rules, although the rules are taken to their limits, sometimes. Both Steiners learned their wrestling at the University of Michigan, where they were both champions in the Big Ten. They have used that amateur skill in the pros to get to the top quickly.

Rick was lost and aimless in the NWA, until his brother joined him last May. Ricky fluctuated between rulebreaker and fan favorite throughout his brief career in the sport, mainly because of his confusion and trust in the wrong people. Despite his confusion at times, he was able to become the UWF World Tag Team Champion (with Sting), the NWA TV Champion, the NWA U.S. Tag Team Champion twice (as a member of The Varsity Club and, later, with Eddie Gilbert), the NWA World Tag Team Champion and he defended the Florida Heavyweight Title for Mike Rotunda when Rick was part of The Varsity Club.

Scott's career has been rockier, but he still is young and is still learning the ropes in the pros. Yet, he has been WWA World Heavyweight Champion and NWA World Tag Team Champion in his short career. Scott's climb to the top in the NWA was amazing when one considers his first attempt at wrestling for a "big" promotion, the CWA in Memphis, wasn't all that successful as Scott had trouble leaving the preliminary ranks. But, coming to the NWA and joining his brother did wonders for him, as well as Rick.

The most amazing part of the Steiners' arsenal of holds are the incredible suplexes each man can administer. Scott is the more proficient of the two here, he uses one suplex in which he suplexes his opponent, does a 360 degree flip in the

process and lands on top of his man, this one is called the "Blockbuster" suplex and this is how he put Sid Vicious, a man who was seemingly indestructable, out of business. He created the "Frankensteiner" a combination flying leg scissors/headlock combined with a body flip which leaves the opponent breathless. Both men can handle a various amount of suplexes, belly-to-back, belly-to-belly, the superplex, side suplex, front suplex, you name it, they know it.

Rick's trademark hold is the "Steiner-line", a vicious clothesline that, for some reason, seems more devastating when used by him than when other wrestlers use the same move. The "Steinerline" ruptured a disc in Arn Anderson's neck and put him out of wrestling. Rick is the rougher of the two men, probably because he has been a rulebreaker at times during his career and the influence of Eddie Gilbert and Kevin Sullivan taught him not to hesitate in throwing away the rulebook during a match. His philosophy is to do unto others before they can do unto you.

Both Rick and Scott are in tremendous physical condition. Each man has a finely sculptured physique and both are capable of wrestling for as long as it takes to win, be it five minutes or an hour. Because they are in such superb physical condition, both men are able to withstand tremendous amounts of pain. I remember that Kevin Sullivan once bodyslammed Scotty on a table at "Clash of the Champions, Guts and Glory", this resulted in a severe, large bruise forming almost immediately on Scott's back, yet he withstood the pain and won the match. Later on in the year, after Kevin Sullivan and Doom attacked Scott in that infamous parking lot incident, Scott wrestled every match he was scheduled for, even though he was severely injured. Rick is extremely reckless in the ring. At "Starrcade '88', Rick was thrown head-first outside the ring and landed awkwardly on the concrete floor. He got up, won the match and, in the process, took the NWA World TV Title from Mike Rotunda. Neither man has a fear of getting hurt, but other men fear the Steiners.

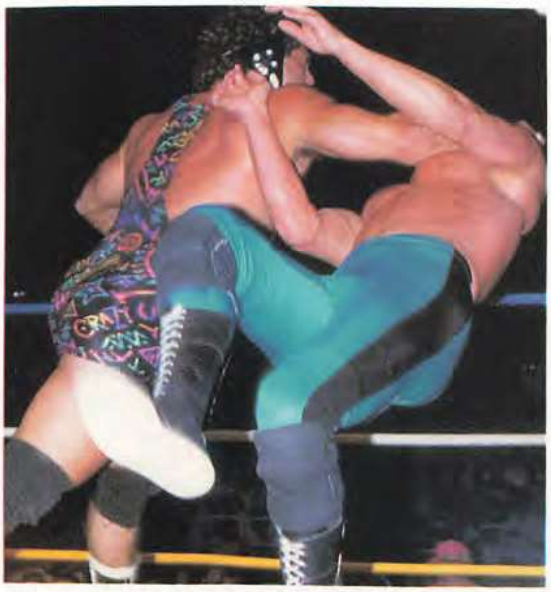
One wrestler, who is not wrestling in the NWA at this time, and is a feared rulebreaker, had this to say about both men, "They're nuts, totally insane. Both of them are real stupid, so they know nothing about pain, they don't feel it. But they are very, very dangerous in the ring. They've hurt a lot of good men and will hurt some more before they are through in this game. I'm glad I don't have to face them in the ring. I value my life way too much to risk it in a match against those two idiots."

All these factors have made Rick and Scott Steiner big, popular stars in the NWA. The male fans in the audience admire their toughness, the females think Scott is cute. With the exception of Sting, and now Lex Luger, Rick and Scott are the most popular men in the NWA and its most popular tag team. Because of this, they are headlining cards around the country these days instead of the tag team which used to be the most popular in the NWA, The Road Warriors. On the big cards, the Warriors are mid-card performers now, not headliners, that spot belongs to the Steiners.

The Road Warriors would like a chance to regain their lost prestige, prestige lost to Rick and Scott, and, apparently, the Steiners would love a chance to get back in the ring against The Road Warriors and prove their victory over them at Starrcade was no-fluke. Although both teams are friends and have teamed together in the past, both teams are very competitive and wouldn't let friendship stand in the way of getting this match signed, sealed and delivered. It would be a classic and I have no doubt who would leave the ring in victory based on recent ring performance, Rick and Scott Steiner, wrestling's best tag team. NWA, the wrestlers want the match, the fans demand the match, now it is up to your organization to sign the match. Let's see which team is the best tag team in wrestling, NWA, let's see it now!!■

Scott manhandles Arn Anderson at "WrestleWar '90".

Rick is prepared for anything that Arn wants to dish out from the top rope.



The Steiners took care of "The Minnesota Wrecking Crew 2" very easily.

One of the Crew is trapped in a Steiner bear hug.

EARTHQUAKE GOES FOR THE WWF GOLD

by SANDY KREBS

He came out of nowhere to make his mark in the WWF. At last count, 28 wrestlers have been carried out of the ring after receiving the earthquake and its aftershocks. Now Earthquake, all 467 lbs. of him, is aiming for the top, he is after the WWF Gold and the man who holds it, The Ultimate Warrior.

Late last year a newcomer came to the WWF by the name of Earthquake. He arrived with a bang. Posing as a fan in a West Virginia arena, Earthquake was called to the ring by Jimmy Hart to participate in a test of strength between Dino Bravo and The Ultimate Warrior. Little did anyone expect what was to happen next. The test of strength was to see if either man could do push-ups with this big (6'6", 450 lb.) man on his back. Bravo went first. The big man delicately placed himself on top of Bravo's ample back and, amazingly, Bravo was able to complete two push-ups, although not easily. Then, it was The Ultimate Warrior's turn. The big man, who said his name was "John", sat himself down on the Warrior. As the Warrior was about to start his first push-up, "John" sat down hard on his back, squashing the I-C Champion to the mat. As the Warrior laid flat on the mat, "John" delivered his devastating earthquake squash on him, rendering the fallen champion helpless. After a few minutes of punishment, Hart, Bravo and "John" left the ring arm-in-arm and laughing. A few seconds later, the Warrior recovered and chased the trio back to the dressing room. Little did anyone know that Jimmy Hart had set up The Ultimate Warrior.

Soon, "John" was in the ring wrestling under the name "Earthquake". His size overwhelmed his opposition as he easily defeated everyone put in his path. His finishing move, the earthquake splash and the numerous "aftershocks" that followed, sent the opponent back to the dressing room on a stretcher. At recent count, according to a very unreliable source (Gorilla Monsoon), 28 men have left the ring on stretchers after facing Earthquake in the ring. Among those men are Ron

PHOTOS BY JOHN BARRETT and SEAN O'LEARY

Earthquake drops his weight on Hercules at WrestleMania VI.

Earthquake delivers the earthquake to Hercules.

Garvin, who felt the earthquake on "Saturday Night's Main Event" and "Hacksaw" Jim Duggan, who got his at WrestleMania VI. Two men who have felt the pain of the earthquake and its aftershocks, but did not leave the ring on a stretcher, are the two behemoths of the WWF, Hulk Hogan and The Ultimate Warrior.

Warrior once again felt the wrath of the Earthquake at the "live" Main Event, held in Detroit, Michigan, this past February. Earthquake interfered in Warrior's match with Dino Bravo, but despite the various distractions, Warrior was able to defeat Bravo. After the match, Earthquake attacked Warrior and had him helpless after an earthquake. As Earthquake was climbing the ring ropes to administer a final aftershock from above, Hulk Hogan came to the ring and protected The Warrior from further damage. When Warrior saw Hogan in the ring, he became upset and confronted The Hulkster, claiming he didn't need his help in the situation. The two behemoths faced off in the ring in front of millions of spectators.

The next week, Hogan was scheduled to face Bravo on "WWF Superstars of Wrestling". After defeating Bravo, once again Earthquake attacked from behind. He devastated Hogan with the earthquake and aftershocks, until The Ultimate Warrior came to the ring to save Hogan. Once again the two faced off in the ring as Hogan didn't want the Warrior's help.

At WrestleMania VI, Earthquake was scheduled for his toughest challenge to date, Hercules. Hercules is not a top star, but is strong and capable and he was managing to hold his own in the match until he made a fatal error, that of trying to lift the now 467 lb. Earthquake up on his shoulders to apply a backbreaker. Hercules collapsed and Earthquake took advantage by administering the earthquake and the aftershocks. However, for the first time in the WWF, Hercules left the ring under his own power after getting the vicious punishment. Later on during the show, "Hacksaw" Jim Duggan wrestled Bravo, who had Earthquake at ringside. Earthquake tried to interfere in the match, which brought Duggan over to the ring ropes to confront him. As Earthquake arose to the ring apron, the referee saw him and tried to get him off. Duggan took this opportunity to grab his 2x4 out of Bravo's hands and used it on Bravo, while the referee wasn't looking. This set up an easy pin for Duggan. Once again, the Earthquake came into the ring and attacked Duggan from behind. Duggan was devastated by the monster and left laying in the ring after having the earthquake and several aftershocks administered to him.

Now, Earthquake is after bigger game, he is scheduled for several matches around the WWF circuit against former World Champion, Hulk Hogan and new World Champion, The Ultimate Warrior. Just who is Earthquake and where did he come from??

Before coming to the WWF, Earthquake was known as "Big" John Tenta. He was a big star in British Columbia (for the UWA) and was also well-known in Japan, where he wrestled for All-Japan Wrestling. He was a champion amateur wrestler in the province of British Columbia, but when his college was forced to discontinue its wrestling program, due to budget cutbacks, he left school. Soon John met some Japanese businessmen who were recruiters looking for capable men to train to become Sumo wrestlers. John became the first Canadian ever to break into the closed ranks of the Sumo wrestlers and quickly made his mark on the sport. He broke the consecutive win record for non-Japanese Sumos of 24, but, soon, the closed, sheltered life of the Sumo wrestler lost its appeal to John and he left the sport.

Giant Baba knew of Tenta's reputation as a Sumo and wanted to train Tenta to become a professional wrestler. This had been Tenta's desire all along and he eagerly accepted. After a few short months of intensive training, John Tenta was ready for his debut and, teaming with Baba, won his first match against Goro Tsurumi and Rusher Kimura when he made Kimura submit to his backbreaker, a hold he has yet to demonstrate in the WWF. Tenta's reputation grew by leaps and bounds in Japan as he more than held his own against all of Japan's best athletes and international stars such as Jimmy Snuka, Bruiser Brody, Stan Hansen and Abdullah the Butcher. Yet he wanted to come home, but found the doors barred to him, as many promoters were afraid to use him because of his immense size. He contented himself to wrestle on the small, but competitive, UWA circuit, hoping for his big break. Finally, almost three years later, he joined the WWF and proved himself to be truly devastating as he has demolished his opposition one by one on a steady climb to the top of the WWF.

Many fans compare Earthquake to King Kong Bundy, but it is an unfair comparison. Bundy didn't have half the talent Earthquake has. Bundy made it to main event status in the WWF, where he failed to gain the WWF World Belt at WrestleMania against Hogan. Earthquake doesn't plan on having history repeat itself with him, he plans on demolishing Hogan and has his sights set firmly on the new gold belt wrapped around The Ultimate Warrior's waist. The Warrior has felt the wrath of the earthquake twice in the past, he may be feeling it again, and soon! ■

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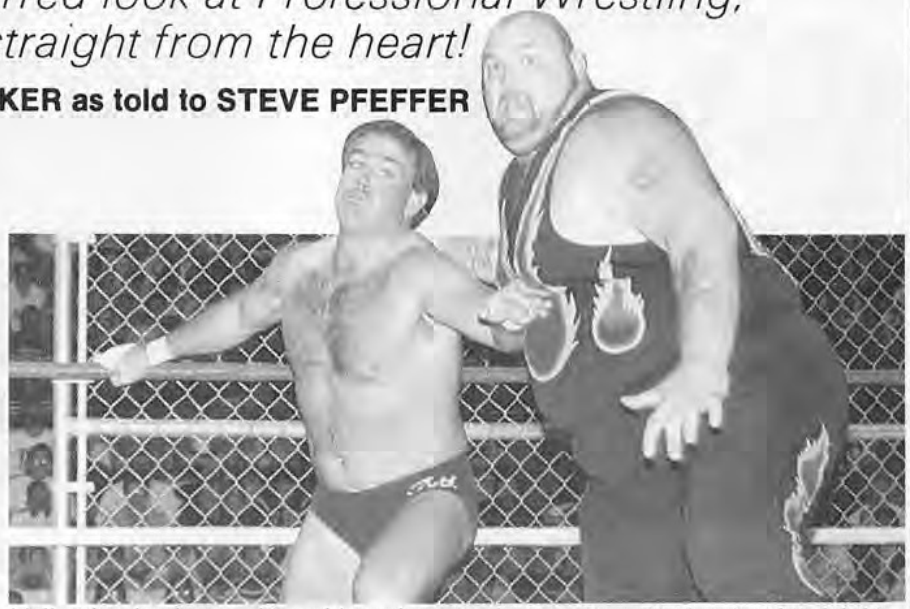

PHOTO BY JOE ZANOLLE

Tully Blanchard gets whipped into the ropes by Bam Bam Bigelow in Philadelphia.

No sooner had I stepped into my house when the phone rang. I was not in the mood for a damn phone call, especially after a hard day of listening to Sandy Krebs ball me out all day at the office. Just because I gave the go-ahead for Al McGiness' "Teeni-Weeni Bikini" contest, he busts my chops for five hours. Anyway, I answered the phone, asking who it is. The most unmistakeable voice bellowed over the phonelines, "Who the hell do you think it is?!" Oh no, my day was totally shot! Big-mouthed Ox, again!!

"Yes, it's me. Don't get mysteriously cut off from me again, I'm wise to your tricks! I have something to tell you, Tully just talked to me for three hours."

Tully?? Tully?! Tully Blanchard! He had disappeared from the WWF, suddenly, after losing the Tag Team Championship, along with Arn Anderson. My day was made, I'm finally going to get the exclusive scoop I've been looking for! "Ox, let me put my tape machine on."

"Your machine on? Stop pussy-footing around! I have a story to tell you! Why do I always put up with this?"

"Come on, Ox, the whole wrestling world wants to hear this story, and you have it. Who knows? I might even be able to make you a hero one day, or even get you some respect. Yeah, respect, the old Ox needs as much respect as he can get."

"OK, OK, Steve, shut up already! Last week I was telling my men they had the greatest manager in the business guiding their careers, but from in back of me a voice said, "Ox, still full of $%¢#!" Right away I turned around and my eyes really opened up."

"Tully Blanchard! You sawed-off runt! I thought you dropped off the planet! Hey guys! Here's the guy who wanted to carry my bags when I was the greatest star in all of Texas!"

Then he said, "Carry them, big mouth?? My father wanted me to burn those stinking things, ha!"

"Steve, the kid has guts, he's lucky I'm not the Ox of old. But I remember Tully's dad real well. Joe Blanchard. That big-shot promoter had a star in Ox Baker. In fact, he helped make the Mighty Ox. He saw me one night in Dallas and said, "Ox, come to San Antonio and see if my crowd likes you." And did they hate me! But Joe, being a college man, couldn't stand me yelling at the fans, "Get down, old woman, or I'll knock your teeth in!"

"Your dad didn't pay all that well, Tully, he had deep pockets. But, where the hell have you been? Everybody's been asking, "Where is Tully Blanchard?".

"Ox, I want to pack it all in," Tully said, "I'm not 40 yet and I still have over 22 years in this business, I'm beginning to think it's been going on forever. Dad took me to the matches when I was 8-years-old, while he was still wrestling. But, like he said, after a million miles on the road, there must be something better. So, he put his money into promotion and ended up in Texas. I had my first match at 17, and started in weighing only 183 lbs., and, boy, did they kick the hell out of me!"

"Yea, but I knew your dad wouldn't let me get my hands on you."

"Ox, you big mouth! You don't know how I wanted to be toe-to-toe with you, but I wasn't ready for that. You want to try me now?"

"I don't do that anymore, boy, get on with your story."

"Well, like everyone, I wanted to see the rest of the world. Texas wasn't for me. I shopped around awhile and North Carolina seemed to be my spot. Jim Crockett needed a tough guy and I fit the bill."

"A tough little guy!"

"Shut up, Ox! Believe me, I was tough. Everybody knows how successful I was there. I won every title Jim Crockett had to offer, except for one. That was the World Championship, and my friend, Ric Flair, had it. I may be a lot of things, but I don't backstab my friends. Arn Anderson became my friend and partner and one night we beat The Road Warriors. They are the best, but Arn and I walked away with the gold belts. I almost had it all."

"All?"

"Yeah, New York, I had to find out if we could go there. But Arn and I, when we got there, we were all fired up and in ten months, we were champs. The World Tag Team Champions. Happy? At peace with the world? Finally got it done? No! They wouldn't put us in the big towns, it was "Hulk Country", and we didn't fit in. I went to the big man, cigar in his mouth, chair tipped back. I threw the belts down on his table and gave notice. We quit! Demolition beat us because we didn't care, we wanted to get out."

"What? Quit the Big Apple? Nobody does that!"

"We did, I even left Arn, I couldn't stay another moment. ESPN, AWA it's all I have left to do, Ox. I laid around for six months and found that wrestling was in my blood. Look at you, bad leg and all. You train your guys and you still yell at the fans."

"Hey, let me manage you Tully, in six months I'll make you AWA World Champion."

"Sorry, Ox, I'm on my own, no more partners, I don't even know the way I want to go."

"Steve he's crazy, went over the edge. Don't feel sorry for him, he turned down the NWA, WWF, World Belts, damn, he even turned me down! Now turn that stupid machine off! I've got to talk to that fool again! Ha!"

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THE LORD'S MANOR

by AL McGINESS substituting for LORD JONATHAN BOYD

Once again I have been besieged by numerous requests to give you morons a sampling of my insights into wrestling. Many of you imbeciles are probably asking yourselves "What right does Al McGiness have to write the "Lord's Manor" column?" Well, here is your answer, I am the King of wrestling rulebreaking writers, as such, I am Royalty and being Royalty qualifies me to write this column for my friend, the immortal Lord Jonathan Boyd, who hates every single one of you just as much, if not more, than I do. However, I have my good side and, at the end of this column, you will find out just how generous I can be!!

Lex Loser proved once again just how stupid he is when he forfeited his greatest victory ever, against Ric Flair in Greensboro, N.C., a match where he could have won the World Strap! Instead, Musclehead lost all chance at decisive victory when he saved the cripple, Stink, from a merciless beating at the hands of The Four Horsemen, Ole and Arn Anderson. He, thus, got counted out, as well as the beating of his life, and proved to the world that the "Total Package" is an empty package from the neck up. Loser, you should be the first to realize how big a backstabber Stink is, he turned on you when you decided to be on your own and he turned on Ric Flair when he signed for the "WrestleWar '90" World Title match. Of course, he paid severely for that mistake, and someday you will too, if the cripple is able to return to the ring wars, when he stabs you in the back once again and demands his shot at the Gold. Gold you could have been wearing, if you weren't so stupid!

Stink, as for you, cripples and invalids have no business at ringside. The ringside area is a dangerous place. You interfered in the match, by slapping Loser in the face, thus denying him his chance at victory, however the referee didn't see that illegal move and failed to DQ the true World Champion (Ric Flair) for outside interference. Then, you struggled with The Andersons, who were only making sure you could watch the end of Loser, safely, away from the danger at ringside. When you got violent, they took drastic measures and had to subdue you with forceful means. Stink, take some good advice, find yourself a 9-to-5 job and get out of the wrestling business, there is no place for you in it anymore and your crippled leg will be a hindrance to you. I can hear the bones breaking in your leg now the first time Ric Flair, wrestling's *only* World Champion, clamps the figure-four on you. It will be the last time he ever applies that hold to you, because when he releases it, you will be permanently confined to a wheelchair, helpless and immobile. That is a sorry way for you to live the rest of your miserable life, but an inevitable ending ot it, if you fail to heed Al McGiness' advice and quit the business, once and for all, before it is too late!

Now on to the other recent atrocious actions in the sport, especially in the WWF. I never saw a referee give a faster three count than James "Bust A Move" Douglas gave to Randy Savage at Detroit's live "Main Event". Then Douglas, definitely showing how brave a World Boxing Heavyweight Champion is, sucker-punched "The Macho King" when the backstabbing Chump Hogan attacked Savage from behind, knocking Randy into Buster. It was surprising to me that Douglas even knew how to count to three to begin with. Rumors are he's so dumb, he can't spell "cat" if you spotted him the "c" and "a"! Mike Tyson should be, and will be, the true heavyweight boxing Champion of the World, just as soon as he can catch up to Buster, who is now busy running away from a rematch.

PHOTO BY JOHN BARRETT

Al McGiness thinks Dusty Rhodes and Sapphire are wrestling's biggest disgraces.

I will say this once and only once, Dusty Rhodes and his pet cow, Sapphire, are the two biggest disgraces to the sport of wrestling. They truly make me sick to my stomach!

Now I would like to announce my generosity to the world! Right here, and now, I am announcing the "First Al McGiness Teeni-Weeni Bikini Tournament" open to all qualified female readers of this magazine!! That's right, you humanoids are getting a contest from me, the greatest of all-times. Let's see what you've got, send me your picture, in your tiniest, sexiest bikini and see if you're good enough to win! What will you win?? Well, even I must admit this prize is GREAT! First, the overall winner will win a free, lifetime subscription to WME!! That's a great prize, even if you can't read!! Secondly, your picture will be published in the magazine for wrestling fans world-wide to drool over, you'll be a sex symbol and treated as such! Finally, you will have the ever-lasting love and respect of myself, the greatest ever, plus, a lot of wrestlers read WME and they might, if they like you, want to meet you, so I will supply them with your address, as long as you want me to!! So, what can you lose?? Submit your best photos (that is, clear, revealing and sharp) before August 20th, 1990 and see if you've got what it takes to be a sex symbol and win some great prizes! Mail your entry to: The First Al McGiness Teeni-Weeni Bikini Tournament, c/o WME, 350 Fifth Avenue, Suite 8216, New York, N.Y. 10118.

Women, or those of you who think you are real women, show the entire world that your city possesses the finest, best-looking foxes in the entire world!! Enter today!! The winner will be announced in the January, 1991 issue, if I find someone worthy of those valued prizes.

I'm tired of writing this column for you idiots, I'm outta here!!■

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WRESTLING'S ROUND-UP

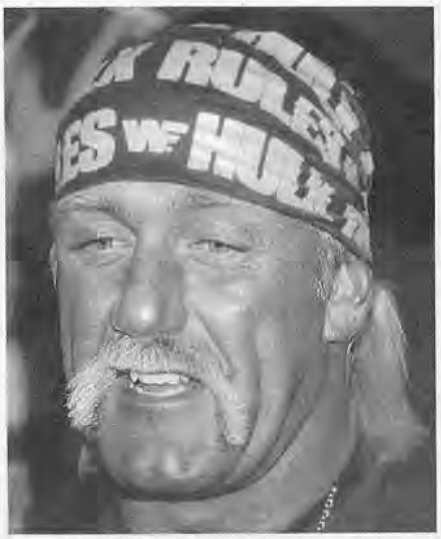
A monthly report on all the latest happenings in the world of Professional Wrestling . . .

WHERE DOES HULK HOGAN GO FROM WRESTLEMANIA VI?

Hulk Hogan is the former two-time WWF World Heavyweight Champion. Now that he has lost his belt to The Ultimate Warrior, where does Hogan go from here?

The immediate plans for Hogan are to stay home as his wife is expecting their second child very soon. After his wife gives birth, Hogan is scheduled to start filming a major motion picture. When the movie is done, it is expected that The Hulkster will return to the wrestling wars, most likely in time for the SummerSlam show, which will be held Monday, August 27th at the Philadelphia Spectrum.

If, and when, Hulk comes back to the ring, he will try to rebound from his first clean pinfall loss since January, 1982. If everything goes as planned for Hogan, his momentum from his return to the ring will peak next January when the opponent for the WWF World Champion (whoever he may be at that time) will be chosen for WrestleMania VII, which will be held Sunday, March 24th, 1991 at the Los Angeles Coliseum.



Hogan's taking some time off.

Although he has a valid WWF contract that lasts until 1994, there is a possibility that Hulk Hogan will retire to become a movie star immediately, which will all depend on how this movie turns out. Hogan is not a very good actor, as the world saw in "No Holds Barred", and his box-office appeal is uncertain. To sum it all up, Hulk Hogan has a very interesting few months to look forward to with a lot of very important decisions, which will greatly affect his life in the future, to make.■

TAG TEAM by 'HOLLYWOOD' STEVE SAUNDERS

March 28, 1990. Downtown Los Angeles in a landmark North Figueroa grocery store. *Wrestling's Main Event* scoops all other competing publications with an on-set report from the upcoming dramatic television pilot entitled "Tag Team". Jesse 'The Body' Ventura and 'Rowdy' Roddy Piper portray two pro wrestlers-turned-Los Angeles Police Department cops, in this Indie Prod./Disney co-production, created, written and co-executive produced by industry veteran, Bob McCullough. This eagerly-awaited venture, for ABC television, has also quietly showcased a one-shot pro wrestling comeback story — on 3/25 before 15,000 WWF fans at the Los Angeles Sports Arena, Jesse Ventura came out of a lengthy retirement to team with Piper and defeat Mr. Fuji's Orient Express. This unpublicized match doubled as the opening scene in the "Tag Team" pilot, as part of a five camera shoot for this purpose.

Any future (legitimate) wrestling appearances by Mr. Ventura would appear to be nil at this point as, during taping of the actual pilot, Jesse 'The Body' required a stunt man for many of his action scenes. 'Rowdy' Roddy, however, was another story entirely and this is Main Event's confidential report. . .

Muscle Rock's own Magic 'Harley Davidson' Schwartz portrays a ruthless rogue holding up a cash register. The woman behind the register counter is about to comply with all demands, as Magic, armed with a baseball bat, threatens bodily harm if she does otherwise. He catches sight of Piper, supposedly an innocent bystander. . .

(all dialog paraphrased):

Magic: "You got a problem?!"

Piper: (approaching) "No, no sir. But if you don't get away from the register, I'm gonna separate your face from the rest of your body." Magic swings his bat as Piper ducks. The Rowdy One follows with a series of forearms, headbutts and kicks, and a devastating monkey flip on the hard store floor. More punches connect, as does a conclusive airplane spin maneuver and a dump atop a display of cereal boxes.

Piper turns only to confront one of Magic's burly partners. . .

Thug: "That man was my friend."

Piper is perilously close to getting his as Jesse climbs over a frozen food display shelf behind the thug, and is about to pounce as. . .enter the stuntman to conclude the scene.

Our final verdict of an exclusive day of behind-the-scenes television? Nothing spectacular here, although the trio of Piper, Ventura and Magic may just create true magic for ABC televiewers nationwide and pro wrestling fans everywhere.■

Piper, Magic Schwartz and Jesse pose before their scene together.

PHOTOS BY SEAN O'LEARY

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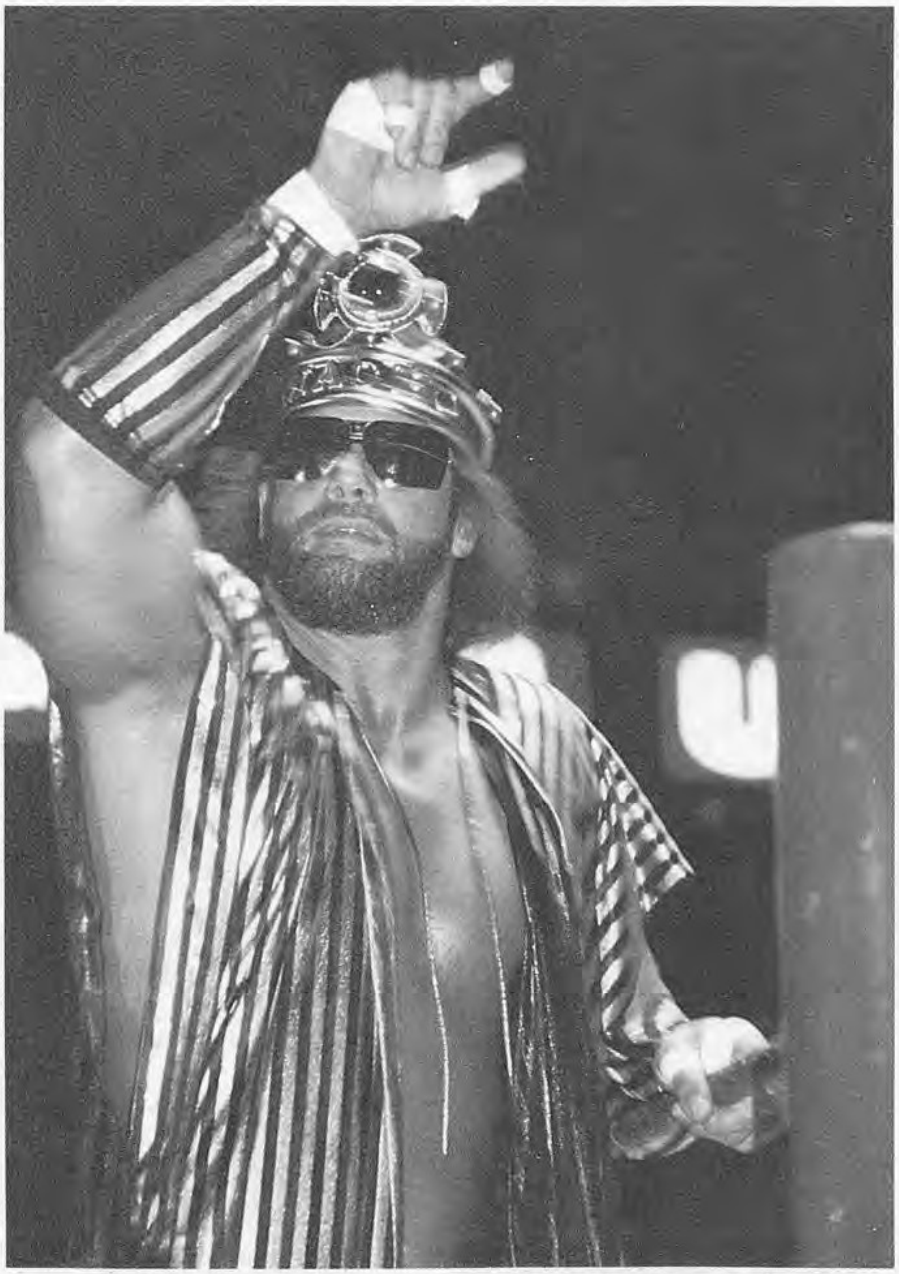

Randy Savage lost to Tenryu in Tokyo, Japan's Egg Dome Stadium.

PHOTO BY DAWN LOCKWOOD

Just two weeks after WrestleMania VI, the WWF held another big card at the Tokyo Dome in Japan. Over 53,000 wrestling fans attended the WWF's first show in that country. The IWGP and All-Japan wrestling promotions also were represented at the card, marking the first time the WWF has co-operated with another wrestling promotion since "the new age" began in 1984. Here are the results: Hulk Hogan pinned Stan Hansen, who substituted for Terry Gordy, The Ultimate Warrior pinned Ted DiBiase. The Japanese fans did not like the Warrior and booed him because they felt he was a poor wrestler and a cheap imitation of the Road Warriors. Giant Baba and Andre the Giant defeated Demolition when Andre pinned Smash, this was not a title match. Tenryu defeated "Macho King" Randy Savage, Jumbo Tsuruta and Haku beat Curt Hennig and Rick Martel when Tsuruta back-suplexed Martel and pinned him. Mr. Saito and Shinya Hashimoto retained the IWGP Tag Team titles by beating Riki Choshu and Masa Chono. Jake Roberts pinned The Big Boss Man, the fans did not like seeing Roberts put his snake on Boss Man, feeling that has no business being in a real sport and they felt Boss Man lost face in this display. The Great Kabuki pinned Greg Valentine, Bret Hart and Tiger Mask fought to a twenty-minute draw, Jimmy Snuka and Tito Santana beat Masa Fuchi and Kenta Kobashi when Snuka pinned Fuchi. Jushin Riger pinned Akira Nogami and, in the opening match, Dan Kroffat, Doug Furnas and Joe Malenko defeated The Foot Loose and Tatsumi Kitahara. The WWF is expected to return to Japan sometime in the future, this time promoting by themselves.

The tournament for the WWF I-C Title has begun and Curt Hennig defeated Jimmy Snuka to advance and Tito Santana upset Akeem to move on, as well. Hennig is the favorite to win this tournament and be the new champion.

Sapphire and Dusty Rhodes were humiliated on TV by Randy Savage and Sensational Queen Sherri, when those two attacked from behind and tried to make Sapphire kiss the feet of Savage. Rhodes was finally able to rescue his manageress, but she was forced to kiss Savage's foot. The feud between these four has intensified and will continue throughout the summer.

The Bolsheviks have broken up after Nikolai Volkoff attacked Boris Zhukov because he didn't like the way Boris sang the Russian National Anthem. Vince McMahon, making sure he gives the fans what he wants them to see, quickly has signed these two to a series of matches against each other.

Jake Roberts presented Bad News Brown with a birthday present, a rubber snake. Brown apparently is afraid of snakes and has promised to make Roberts pay for his actions.

New to the WWF is Paul Diamond, and, contrary to rumors and speculation, especially in "The Toronto Sun" on WrestleMania Sunday, Ric Flair is *not* going to the WWF and was *not* at WrestleMania VI.

RoboCop, what can we say about the NWA and RoboCop?? Mr. Jim Herd apparently wants to run the NWA as the WWF is run, thus giving wrestling fans

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Hennig is the new I-C Champion.

no alternative when they want to watch real sport. He brings in this movie character to act as Sting's "bodyguard" at the "Capitol Combat" PPV show, which was held on May 19th in Washington, D.C. Mr. Herd, this piece of scrap-heap metal has no business in a wrestling promotion such as the NWA, lose it fast!!

Barry Windham has returned to the NWA, however, it remains to be seen if he is the Fourth Horseman or not. We suspect he is. Also new to the NWA was "Outlaw" Joel Deaton, who is feuding with Tommy Rich. The "good boogeyman", Abdullah the Butcher, returned to the NWA. Norman, watch your back, he's a man who can't be trusted! Tony Schiavone has returned to the NWA as the new host of "World Wide Wrestling" and Chris Cruise and Terry Funk have left the NWA. Others leaving the NWA were The Royal Family, who will continue to team together in southern independent promotions, and The Titan, who never even got the chance to appear.

Arn Anderson is back from his injured arm and, by the time you are reading this magazine, Sid Vicious will have returned from his punctured lung and broken ribs.

"Mean" Mark has returned from Japan, with a new finishing hold, The Heart Punch. Teddy Long has put Mark's contract up for auction as he wishes to devote all his energies to DOOM. Wouldn't it be something if our old buddy, Ox Baker, the Master of the Heart Punch, now a wrestling manager, wins the auction to become Mark's new manager?

Mr. Long has gotten his team involved in a feud with The Road Warriors and he has fought Paul Ellering a few times in the last several weeks. Long, calling himself "Sugar Ray" Long, brings a loaded boxing glove to ringside, which he doesn't hesitate to use. In a televised match held recently, between Hawk and Butch Reed, Long handed the glove to Ron Simmons, who attacked Hawk from behind with the glove, knocking him cold and giving Reed an easy victory. Then, a week later, as Hawk was being interviewed by Lance Russell in the ring, DOOM and Long attacked Hawk and beat him unmercifully three-on-one until Rick and Scott Steiner came to ringside to save him.

In preparation for his title cage match with Ric Flair at "Capitol Combat", Lex Luger pinned Flair in a non-title cage match in Atlanta, Ga. on April 8th. It looks as if Luger is very close to winning the World title and this cage match in Washington just might do the trick.

In the USWA, Jerry Lawler lost and regained the World Title from Jimmy Valiant. Valiant won the title late in February and held the belt for three weeks, before losing it back to Lawler on March 12th.

Eric Embry has returned to the Texas part of the USWA. He has resumed his feud with Gary Young and Scandor Akbar and, apparently, has healed his rift with "Gentleman" Chris Adams.

Jeff Gaylord is still feuding with Kerry and Kevin Von Erich. Kerry is also feuding with Billy Joe Travis, who stole one of Kerry's jackets and the USWA Texas title from him recently. Kerry got them back, though.

The Dirty White Boy has brought in a second Dirty White Boy to be his new tag partner and they are on the trail of new USWA Tag Team Champions, The Southern Rockers. The Dirty White Boy and Girl are still arguing with each other and a break-up of these two can be expected any day now.

Bill Dundee is the USWA Southern Champion (formerly known as the CWA Heavyweight Championship) and he's feuding with Steve Austin in Texas and Sweet Daddy Falcone in Tennessee. Others wrestling for the USWA in Texas include: Terrance Garvin, Jeff Jarrett, Dustin Rhodes, "Hollywood" John Tatum and his valet, Tessa, Mike Awesome, Chris Youngblood, Jimmy Jack Funk, Matt Borne and Chico Torres. Others wrestling for the USWA in Tennessee include: Ben Jordan, Rockin' Randy, Chris Champion, Lou Winston, Rooster Cogburn and Ronnie Gossett and Nate the Rat, the two managers.

Larry Zbyszko regained the AWA World Heavyweight Championship from Mr. Saito on April 8th in St. Paul, Minnesota at "SuperClash 4", in a match in which Nick Bockwinkle was the referee. The ending came when Saito suplexed Zbyszko into a pinning situtation, however he failed to realize his shoulders were down on the mat also. Zbyszko lifted his shoulder off the mat at the count of two, thus winning the match. Subsequently, The Trooper pulled an upset by beating Zbyszko in a non-title match.

The big news in the AWA concerns their May 5th card in St. Paul as NWA World Champion, Ric Flair, will face "Flyin'" Brian Pillman on the show. This is the first time in a long time Flair has

Barry is back in the NWA.

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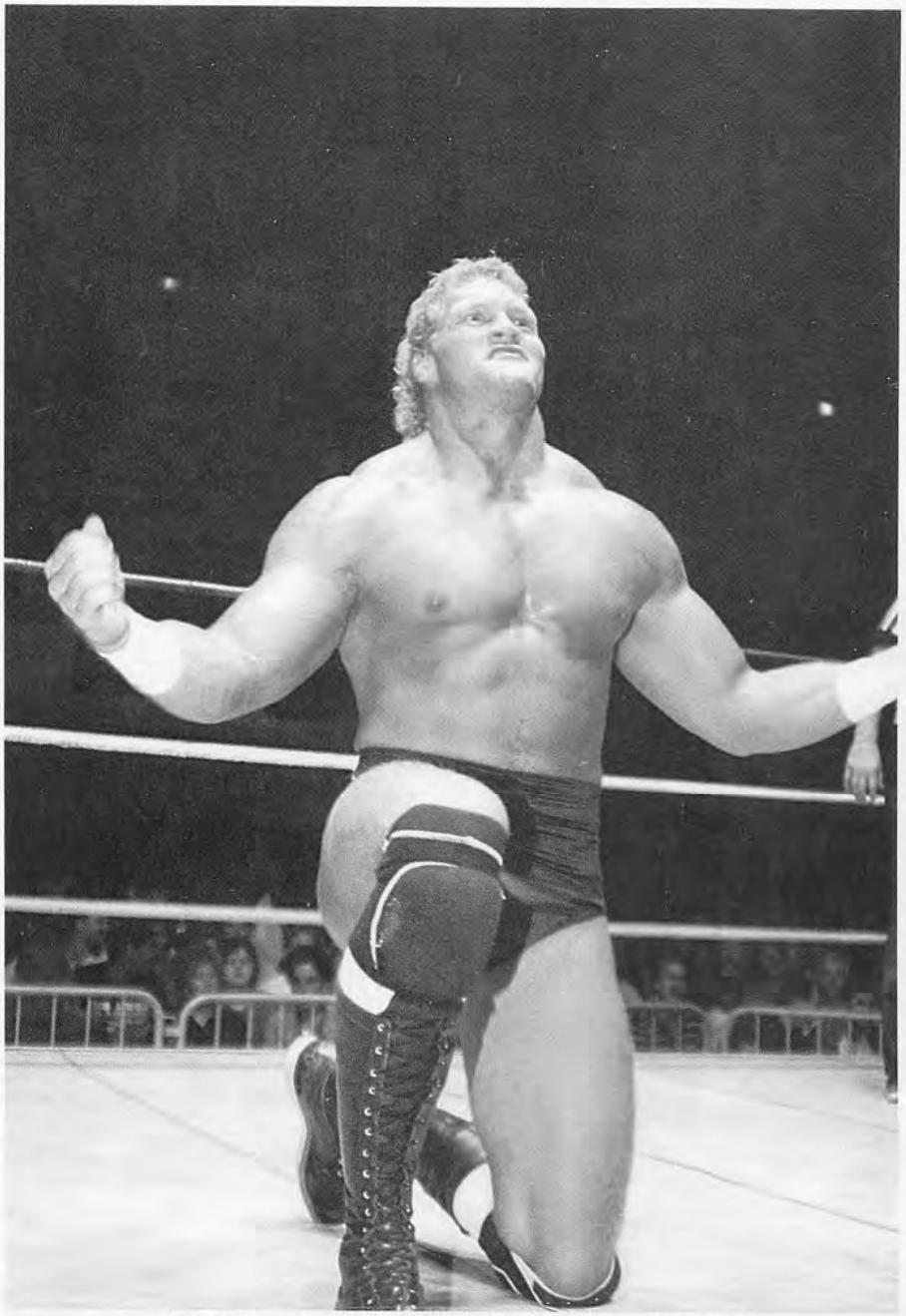


Sid Vicious has returned from his injuries to the NWA.

appeared in the AWA and talks of a title unification match are heating up.

Tully Blanchard and his manager, Christopher Love, are in the AWA. Blanchard is feuding with The Trooper and looking for a World Title match.

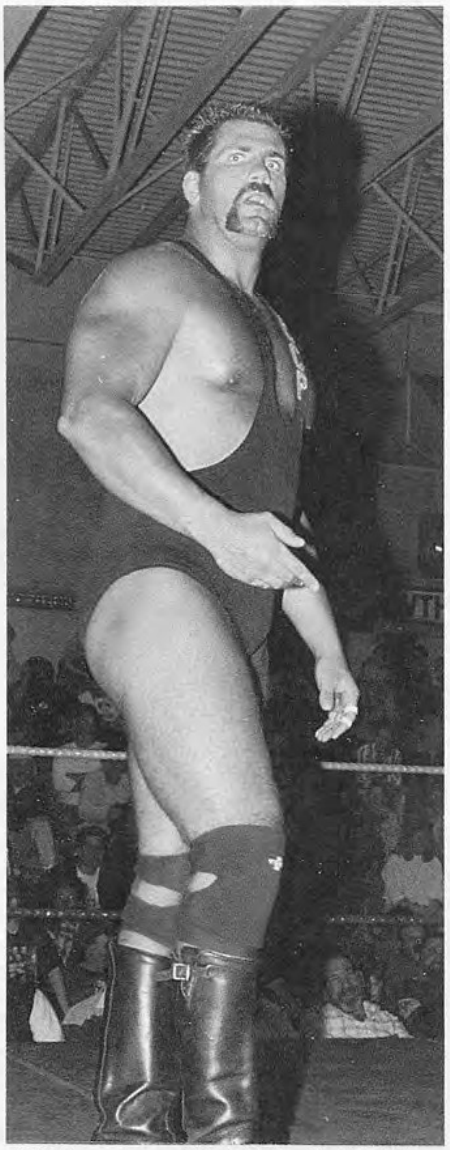
Former New York Giant and Minnesota Viking defensive lineman, Bob Lurtsema, has started wrestling and is feuding with The Destruction Crew. The Crew is also feuding with D.J. Peterson and Brad Rheingans, who defeated them in a non-title match.

Kokina Maximus is now a fan favorite in the AWA after turning on his manager, Shiek Adnan Al-Kaissey. Others wrestling in the AWA include: Jake Milliman, Todd Becker, Nikita Koloff, the Texas Hangmen, Baron Von Raschke, Col. DeBeers, Tommy Jammer, "Yukon" John Nord, the Zebra Kid, Scott Norton and Lord Humongous (not the original).

Carlos Colon regained the WWC Universal Title by defeating Abdullah the Butcher, who had beaten T.N.T. for the belt. The Super Medicos are the new WWC World Tag Team Champions, they defeated Ron Starr and the Cuban Assassin.

Leo Burke, who lost the Universal Title to T.N.T., is now looking to get it back from Colon. Others wrestling in Puerto Rico at this time include: "Killer" Carl Styles, Hurricane Castillo, Jr. and Miguelito Perez, the Hunters, Rick Valentine, El Gran Mendoza, "Jumping" Joe Savoldi, Pierre Martel, El Profe, Chickie Starr, Eddie Watts, Junkyard Dog and the Iron Shiek.

The ICW is growing larger and getting



Nikita got an AWA Title shot in May.

PHOTOS BY JOE ZANOLLE and STEVE STOGDALE

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better. The "New" Tony Atlas is the ICW World Champion and is feuding with Vic Steamboat and the huge Rochester Roadblock. The Undertakers won a tournament for the ICW tag titles. The ICW stripped The Lethal Weapons of the belts and declared the titles vacant. Others in the ICW include: Joe Cruel, Ray Odyssey, Eric Sbracchia, Hoss and Chief Thunder Mountain, Shiek Abdul al-Feid, Tommy Angel, the masked Russians and, expected in soon, The Dragonmaster.

On June 28th in Kansas City, the WWA presented their "Super Summer Sizzler". Scheduled to appear were Harley Race, the Russian Brute, Curtis Hughes, Rufus R. Jones, Steve Ray, Steve Sawyer, Doug Button, Ric McCord and J.J. Cody.

Billy Jack Haynes has become a rule-breaker in the Pacific Northwest. Billy Jack had teamed with Rip Oliver and Rip's son, Larry, in a six-man tag match against The Equalizer, The Grappler and Brian Adams. Haynes had Adams trapped in the full-nelson when the Grappler hit him over the head with a garbage can and knocked him out. Larry Oliver got the can away from The Grappler and was beating him with it when Haynes awoke. When Haynes saw Oliver with the can, he attacked him. Haynes grabbed a kendo stick and started beating Oliver with it until Rip Oliver covered up his son. Haynes jumped off the top rope onto Rip and Rip had to be carried out of the ring on a stretcher.

The week before this, Brian Adams was arm-wrestling a mystery man, whom he unmasked as Bill Francis, when a second man slammed Adams' head into a table. That man unmasked himself as Haynes, who had just returned to Oregon from Las Vegas, where he was challenging Mark Gastineau, former NFL player, to a boxing match.

Betelgeuse and Big Juice won a tournament for the vacant PNW Tag Titles, by beating The Grappler and Brian Adams in the final match.

Roddy Piper made a return to the PNW as he came out of the crowd and accepted Scotty the Body's challenge to any fan willing to arm-wrestle with him.

The PNW Heavyweight Title was vacated and a tournament was to be held on 4/21 to create the new champion. Haynes, Larry and Rip Oliver, The Grappler, The Equalizer, Betelgeuse, Big Juicer, Brian Adams, Curtis Thompson, Bill Francis, Al Madrill and Ricky Santana were scheduled to compete.

Scotty the Body is still the PNW TV Champion.

Johnny Hot Body and Tony Stetson have been feuding throughout New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware.

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Derrick Dukes is in the IWA.

Stampede wrestling made its return, after closing down for several months. Jason the Terrible, (not the original), Len Crazy Horse, Kim Schau, Goldie Rogers, Jerry Morrow, Biff Wellington, Bruce Hart, Roy Red Crow, Chris Benoit and The Angel of Death are wrestling here. "Lethal" Larry Cameron and Davey Boy Smith are expected to come in soon.

Around the independent circuits, Tri-State Wrestling Alliance promoted another successful card in Philadelphia which saw Jerry Lawler throw fire in Kerry Von Erich's face, when Kerry tried to apply the claw, to get DQ'ed and keep the USWA World Title. Austin Idol turned on his manager, Paul E. Dangerously, after Paul E. hit Idol with the phone, causing Idol to get pinned by Paul Orndorff. As Idol was beating up Dangerously, Lawler came into the ring to attack Idol, which set up a match between the two, which was held on June 9th. Tully Blanchard, Bam Bam Bigelow, Dr. Tom Prichard, The Cheetah Kid, Larry Winters, D.C. Drake, Jules Strongbow, Johnny Hot Body and Tony Stetson also appeared on the card.

Scotty the Body returned to his New Jersey roots to wrestle for the WWA recently. Boy Gone Bad regained the WWA Heavyweight Title from Paddy O'Brian and Al the Sledge Hammer and "Mean" Mike Moore hold the WWA Tag Titles. Johnny Hot Body holds the WWA Jr. Heavyweight Championship. In June, the WWA has signed Stan Hansen to face Kamala in an island match.

The NAWA is doing well in North Carolina and Virginia. Ricky Steamboat is feuding with Bob Orton, Jr. here. Tully Blanchard is expected to return to the area soon. The Pit Bulls are a new, sensational tag team.

Robert Fuller and Kendall Windham are the new Florida Tag Team Champions after beating The Nasty Boys. Steve Keirn is the Florida Heavyweight Champion and is feuding with Fuller. Buddy Landel made a few appearances in Florida. Others wrestling in Florida include: Brickhouse Brown, Bodyguard Mark, The Terminator, Jimmy Backlund, Lou Perez, Dennis Knight, Tyree Pride, Tommy Rogers, the Bounty Hunters and the Coconut Kid.

Rob Russen's IWA taped four TV shows at the Manatee Civic Center in March. Rob's TV show should be on in Florida and New Jersey by the time this issue hits the stands. Derrick Dukes, Cousin Luke, Preston Steele and his valet, Noelle, the Terminator, Kerry Von Erich, Jules Strongbow, Lou Perez, Robert Fuller, Tommy Rogers, Hurricane Walker, Steve Keirn, Jerry Lawler, the Bounty Hunters and Bodyguard Mark all wrestled. The IWA has scheduled another TV taping for May 6th in New Jersey which will feature "Lethal" Larry Cameron as well as the others listed.

Five Star Promotions is running shows in Mississippi and Louisiana. Buddy Landel is feuding with The Junkyard Dog. Others wrestling for Five Star include: Wendell Cooley, Outlaw Ron Bass, Johnny Mantell, Sam Houston, the Fantastics, the Beast, the Maoris and Bob Orton, Jr. Expected in soon are Terry Taylor, the former Red Rooster, Tim Horner and Brad Armstrong and Baby Doll.

Another WWA, based in Houston, Texas, started promoting shows in April. Paul Orndorff, Junkyard Dog, "Big" John Studd, the Fantastics and Scott Casey were some of the stars on their first show.

Windy City Wrestling still promotes shows in Illinois and Indiana. Steve Regal, Col. DeBeers, Ken Patera, Larry Zbyszko, Frank "the Tank" Melson and Hurricane Smith are the stars wrestling here.

Midwestern Wrestling Alliance is based in St. Louis, Mo. Some of the wrestlers here are Tony Paulik, the MWWA Heavyweight Champion, Steve Stunning and "Lover Boy" Lonnie Rich, the Missouri Bushwhackers, Ric Dusty, Hoss Elliott, Brad Seger, The Nightmaster, Bama, The Texas Hangman, The Sabbaths I and II and female wrestlers The Swamp Witch (MWWA Champion), Pure Gold and Mary Gable and their managers are Diamond Jim, Miss Andrea, J.O. Stevens and Mr. Charles Bohannon. Anyone interested in seeing a MWWA show can contact the promotion at: 1659 Kappel, St. Louis, Mo., 63136, attn: Frank Reed.

IWF/Muscle Rock is living up to all expectations in California and Nevada. As of presstime, four national syndicators are bidding for television series rights, and an exclusive arrangement with a perennial rock group favorite, which we can't announce just yet, adds to the allure of this unique federation. "Hell Raiser Tour 1990" commenced on March 3rd in Pt. Magu, California with The Beast dumping "Handsome" Harry in an over-the-top-rope Battle Royal to determine the Muscle Rock Champion. Along with tag partner, The Centipede, he continues to feud with Mando and Eddie Guerrero. America's Strong, likewise, have their hands full with unpopular IWF Champions, The Bad Dudes. On the women's front, Mary, The Duchess Of Discipline and The Flame have resumed their battles against Reggie "Ragin'" Cajun and The Beastie Girl. ■

The Nasty Boys lost the Florida tag titles.

PHOTOS BY JOE ZANOLLE and RON McDOWELL

THE MAIN EVENT:

THE PRELUDE TO WRESTLEMANIA VI

by SIR JOHNATHAN BAINE

The Main Event. Prime-time was not meant for professional wrestling, but I would not expect all you bloody American morons who follow Hulk Hogan around like pathetic little puppies to understand. Being one of the greatest authorities of professional wrestling in the world, it makes my blood crawl trying to drill information into a one-ounce brain with no education past prep school. But since my "Illustrious" Editor, Sandy Krebs, convinced me to take on this most difficult challenge, I'll do my best. Way back when the WWF used to be decent to watch, and sometimes even exciting, you had wrestlers like (the old) Jimmy Snuka, (the old) Sgt. Slaughter, the Iron Shiek, Pat Patterson, Peter Maivia, (the old) Superstar Billy Graham, The Masked Superstar, the Magnificent Muraco, (the old) Greg Valentine, Stan Hansen (still great after all these years), the Wild Samoans (until they wimped out), The Valiants, Ivan Koloff, Ray Stevens, and Fuji and Saito. There was tough brawling and good scientific European-style wrestling, not like today's bloody bawling and hollow threats on taped interviews with cue cards (can you see the cue cards OK, Buster?). Even back then I thought there was no place for non-wrestlers to even set foot into a wrestling ring. The ring, whether it be in the Colonies or the Mother Country, is a sacred place, and no place for imbeciles! Imbeciles like the late Andy Kaufman, Flaming Liberace, Muhammed Ali, Mr. T, Zeus, Jason Hervey ("Wonder Years" star? It's a wonder he's made it through puberty yet. Ha!), your so-called football players like "Refrigerator" Perry, Boxer Buster Douglas, plus Hulk Hogan, The Ultimate Warrior and Musclehead Dino Bravo. Yes, I do not consider Hogan or Warrior wrestlers, and therefore I am not, repeat, not going to torture myself to travel to WrestleMania this year. Besides I hate it when all you teeny-bopper, little children come over to me and ask for my autograph. As for Bravo, he used to be impressive before he came back to the WWF and went on their extensive supplement and exercise program.

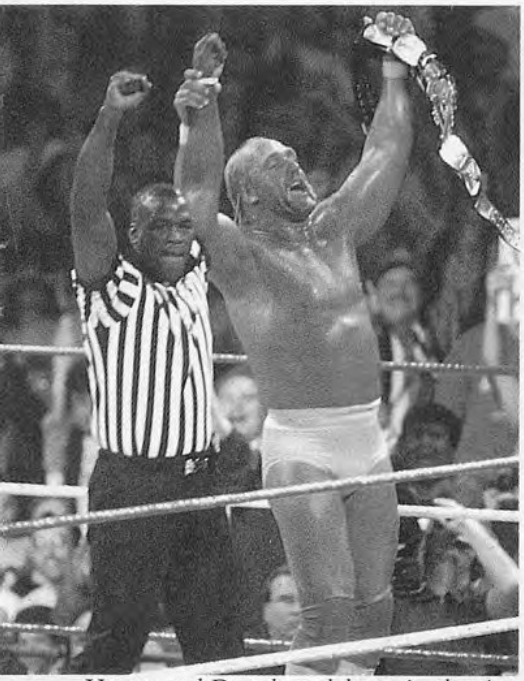
Wrestling does not belong in prime-time for one reason, the average American,

Savage took it to Hogan right away.

Buster Douglas takes charge outside the ring.

Hogan sets up his victory with an Atomic Drop.

PHOTOS BY JOHN BARRETT



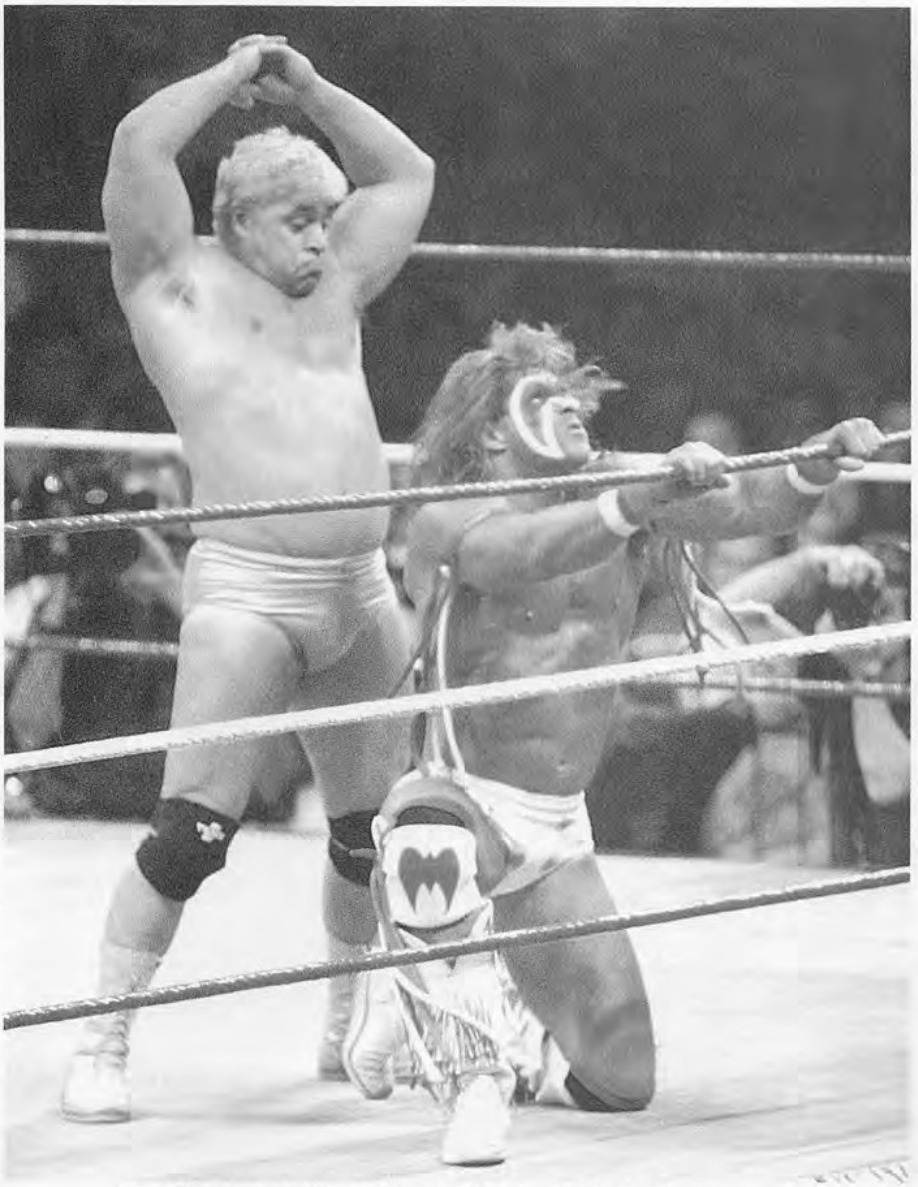
Hogan and Douglas celebrate in the ring after the match.

Savage confronts Douglas and dares him to fight.

Buster knocks out "The Macho King" with a punch.

yuppie, bullridden, bureaucratic (look it up, maybe you'll learn something) family will not appreciate the majestic beauty found in our sport, the sport of kings. The other half of Americans are probably too lazy, or just too poor, to afford a telly to watch the show. According to your "famous" Neilson ratings, this prime-time Main Event show rated lower than the average Saturday Night's Main Event, which proves my point, put on a *bad* show, in a *bad* time slot, you get a *bad* response. For the money that Vince McMahon paid Buster Douglas to referee he could have bought a couple of new suits, God knows he needs them. Wrestling should be down and dirty, there has to be that bloodlust in the competitor's eyes. The hunger has to be there to win at all costs. But the prime-time censors won't stand for *true* wrestling. You now have this WWF bubblegum crap flooding your airways, along with all the dolls and cartoons for kids. That brings up another point. Kids *do not* belong at professional wrestling shows! When I was a child, even in Merry Olde England, you couldn't get into a show unless you were older than sixteen. Why do you think America has so many juvenile deliquents? Because in their little minds they want to emulate their cartoon heroes. If that means taking Hulk Hogan vitamins to get big and strong so be it, but it could lead to more serious problems down the line. *True* wrestling fans, even if they are American, should have enough sense to agree with me that professional wrestling has its time, its place and its own little niche in the sports world. Stay away from the Barnum and Bailey approach, it will overkill the market.

The Main Event show itself, like I so



Dino Bravo clubs The Ultimate Warrior in the back, to no avail.

Earthquake and Bravo double team the Warrior, which eventually brought Hulk Hogan to the ring.

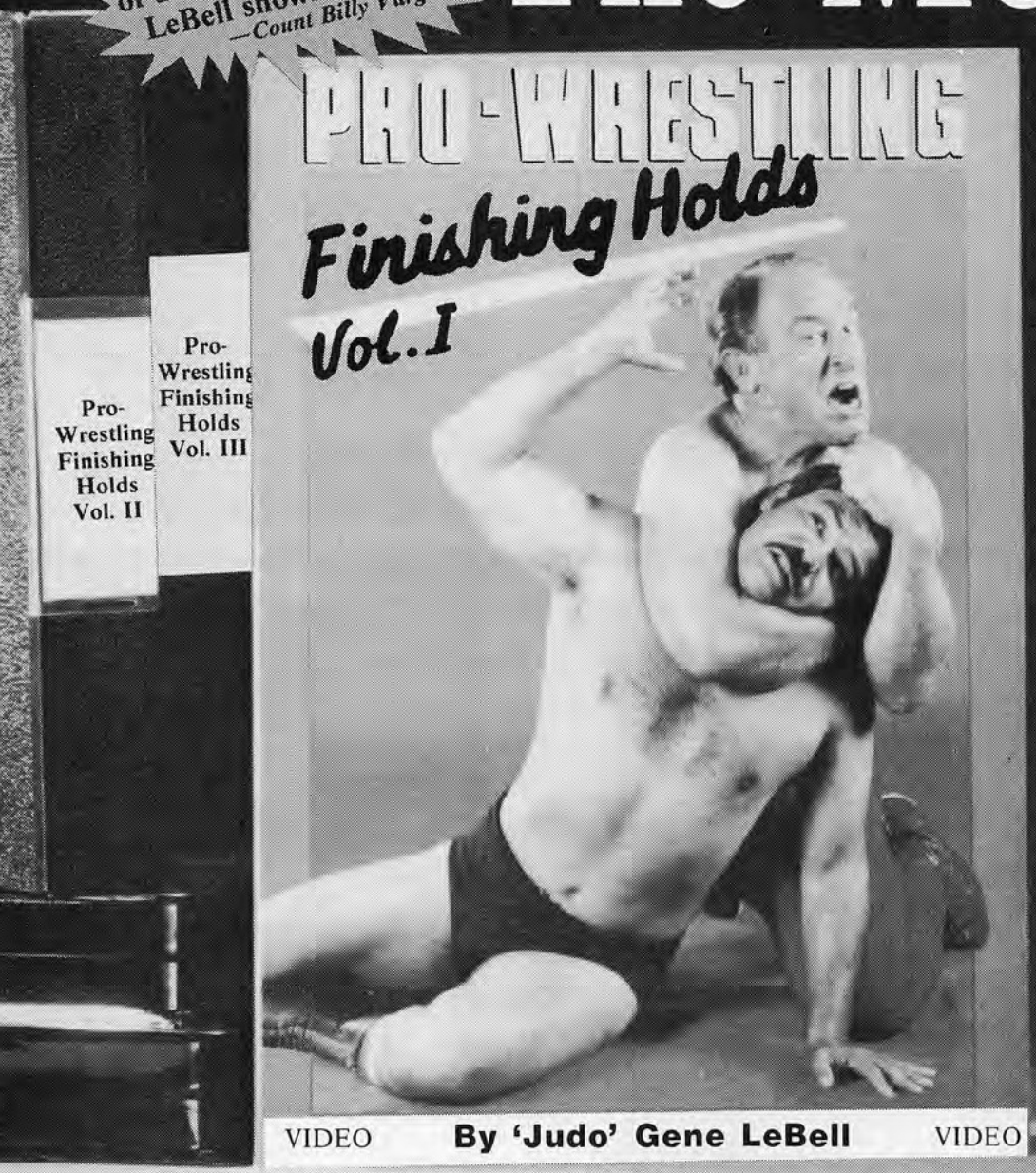
The Ultimate Warrior and Hulk Hogan shout at and intimidate each other.

eloquently stated earlier, was garbage. The only redeeming feature of the whole show was Randy Savage, who at least tried to wrestle for his money. If the referee in Buster Douglas' fight counted out Buster as fast as Buster counted out Savage, Mike Tyson would still be Champion of the World. Hogan started off strong as usual, but showing his physical age, lack of cardiovascular conditioning and lack of wrestling skill, Savage soon took the advantage. Thanks to Buster Douglas' constant, blatant interference, the Huckster took the pinfall. The "Macho King" politely talked to Buster about the decision, Hogan backstabbed Savage, pushed him into the current World Boxing Champion and being the *big* man Douglas is, he suckerpunched the "Macho King". Later on in the show, the Ultimate Moron easily disposed of Dino Bravo but was attacked by the 450 lb. Earthquake. Hogan came to Moron's rescue, saved him from receiving the beating of his life, and then the expected happened. The two biggest egos in wrestling came face to face, the bloody, pigheaded buffoons almost got into it right then and there. It's a shame the potentially biggest match of the year at WrestleMania is also the potentially worst. Why? If you watched the prime time Main Event show, you can easily figure it out.■

Pro-Wrestling Finishing Holds–

The Movie!

"I've spent thousands of dollars to learn what LeBell shows here!" —*Count Billy Varga*



World Champion "Judo" Gene LeBell has done it again. He has completed the video series which everyone has been asking for. His videos, *Pro-Wrestling Finishing Holds, Volumes I, II, III* faithfully follow his hot selling book *Pro-Wrestling Finishing Holds.* A three-hour spectacular in three one-hour video cassettes.

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WRESTLEMANIA VI:

THE CROWNING OF THE ULTIMATE CHAMPION

by AL McGINESS

Look, humanoids, I hate Chump Hogan, I despise The Ultimate Idiot and WWF wrestling stinks, so why did I go to Toronto, Canada (far from North America's most beautiful city) for WrestleRama VI, held appropriately enough on April Fool's Day?? Because I wanted to see the two monoliths destroy each other's careers!! They called this "The Ultimate Challenge". To me the ultimate challenge was to see if I could stay awake long enough to see the five minute main event. Boy, was I ever surprised!

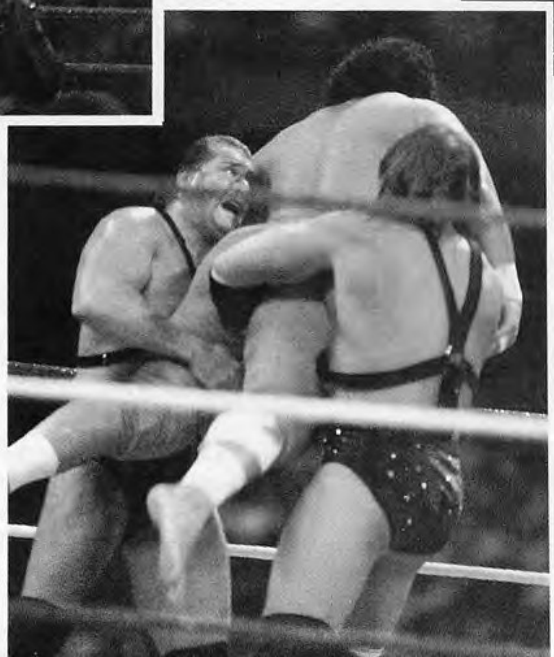
I left my comfortable suite at the Hotel Royal York and arrived at the SkyDome Stadium just in time to see the "dark" match. Once again I was forced to see Paul Roma beat The Brooklyn Brawler. Are these two non-entities feuding with each other, or what??

Finally, after a countdown, the real show began with a Frog (a washed-up Frog at that) singing the Canadian National Anthem. Canada has little to offer the world, except a devalued dollar and good drinking beer, but their National Anthem is great!! But why let a Frog sing

Haku nails Andre the Giant with a misguided savate kick.

Demolition rejoices in victory, raising their belts high in the air.

Demolition double teams a helpless Haku and pins him to regain the WWF Tag Belts.



Andre attacks Bobby Heenan after "the Brain" slapped Andre.

a song meant for English speaking people?! The first match saw Koko B. A Fool lose to Rick Martel. Koko doesn't paint his hair anymore, but he still can't wrestle and is still dumb, so the Model boston-crabbed the cretin for the victory.

Next came the World Tag Team Title match pitting Haku against Demolition. Haku had a partner, Andre the Fat Giant, but Andre never tagged in the match, letting his partner take double-teaming abuse from the painted animals. Finally, Andre came into the ring to help, but his "help" backfired when a savate kick Haku aimed for his opponent missed and hit Andre because Andre was too stupid to hold on tight and let his opponent get away. The useless Giant was trapped in the ring ropes while Demolition pummelled Haku and Ax finished him off to take back the straps. After the match, Bobby Heenan abused the Giant and slapped him which drove Andrea wild with rage. He attacked his manager and partner and left the ring by himself, hopefully never to be seen again. Such a tragic waste!!

Earthquake defeated Hercules when the stupid musclehead tried to lift the 467 lb. fat man into a backbreaker. The imbecile collapsed and then paid the price as Earthquake decimated him with earthquake splashes. To his credit, the muscle head was able to rise and leave the ring under his own power after the match.

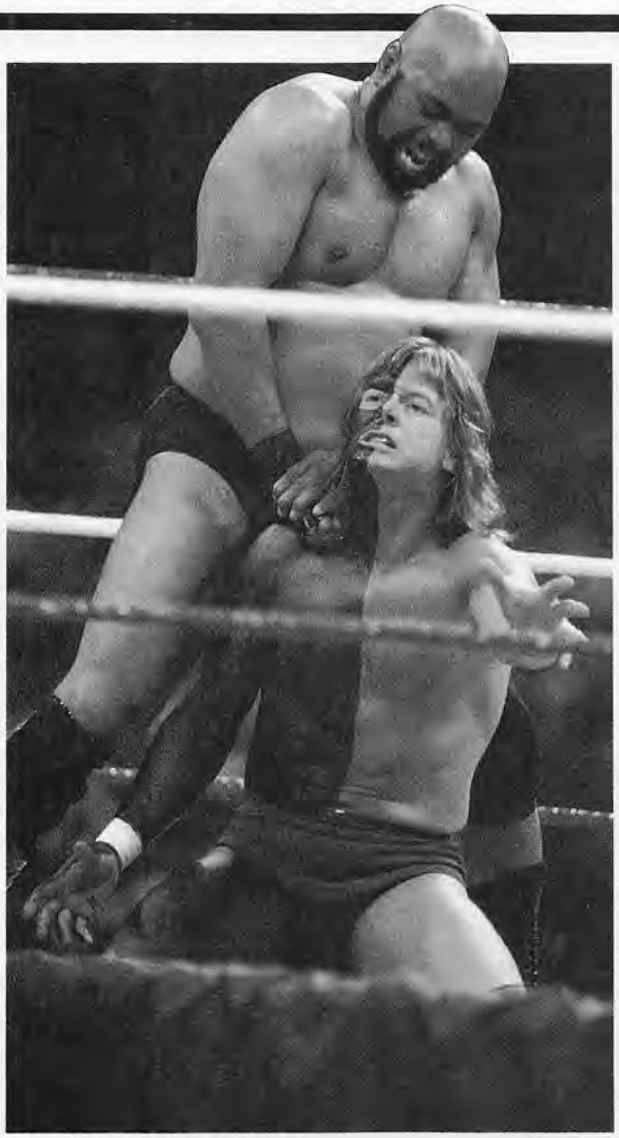
Fruti Bruti fought Curt Hennig next. To the surprise of many, Bruti won when he cheated, by slingshotting "Mr. Perfect" headfirst into the ringpost, knocking Curt out and getting an easy pin. Then the cretin tried to cut off Mr. Perfect's long, flowing golden locks, but The Genius saved the day by stealing the weapon. Fruti chased the Genius around the ring, caught him, put him to sleep then heinously cut off the Genius' hair. Mr. Perfect left the ring area during this time, too dazed to realize his friend needed help. Next time, Fruti Bruti, it's your hair that goes!!

Then the man, Bad News Brown, fought the supposed street-punk, oreo "Rowdy" Rodney Piper, a "man" who wears a skirt. Bad News rules 122nd and Lenox, so he knew this opponent was no problem. However, he forgot that Piper is too stupid to play it safe and is very dangerous. The match degenerated into a brawl outside the ring, which Bad News was getting the best of, when both men were counted out. They tried to fight back to the dressing room, but the wimpy WWF officials kept trying to break up the fight. Next time, Piper, you gutless pipsqueak, you pay the price!

Next came the mighty Hart Foundation as they squared off with the poor excuses for Commies, The Bolsheviks. Nikolai Volkoff sang his national anthem, as only he can, but Jim Neidhart and Bret Hart didn't wait until the end to demolish their opposition. Breaking every stinking rule, they backstabbed the two commies and devastated both. Zhukov was demolished by Bret Hart's heart attack and put out of his misery in 18 seconds. Humanoids, you have been told before, The Pink-And-Black Attack is back, better and dirtier than ever! Demolition prepare to lose your straps to worthy Champions!!

Bobby Heenan presented his newest protege next, The Barbarian, who wrestled Chico Santana. Chico was put out of his misery quickly when Barbarian nailed a

Bad News Brown and Roddy Piper fought to a double count-out.



Miss Elizabeth joined forces with Dusty Rhodes and Sapphire.

Beefcake puts the Genius to sleep and cuts his hair off afterwards.

The Rockers whip Pat Tanaka into the ropes.

PHOTOS BY JOHN BARRETT

flying clothesline and pinned the wetback, hopefully ending his disgraceful career!

Next came the disgrace of the show, fat pig Dusty Rhodes and his pet cow, Sapphire, facing His Royal Highness, "Macho King" Randy Savage and the beautiful Queen, Sensational Sherri. A big surprise awaited everyone when the beer-bellied, rednecked fat slob brought Miss Elizabeth to ringside for his team. I was shocked, here was a woman who once stood for everything classy, but since leaving the "Macho Man" has gone totally downhill. Dusty Rhodes only attracts sluts, bimbos and low-life street trash to his side, so what was Elizabeth doing here with him?! Humanoids, draw your own conclusions, I need not say more about this situation, it's all there in black-and-white (HAHA!!). Anyways, Miss Elizabeth blatantly interfered in the match by grabbing Sherri by the hair, allowing the cow to pin her, thus ruining this special occasion for "The Macho King" and his Queen. Afterwards, we were forced to see the three cretins dancing (or trying to) for the humanoids. This match disgusted me totally, and I almost left the arena. Instead, I headed for the nearest bar, as it was intermission time. After downing three brews, I returned to my seat to see The Orient Express fight the pretty-boys, The Rockers. Marty Janetty tried to assault Mr. Fuji with Fuji's own cane, but Akio Sato came to his manager's rescue with his own weapon, salt, which he threw into Janetty's eyes to help save his manager. The pretty-boy punk couldn't see and was counted out, giving a tremendous victory to the Japanese.

"Imbecile" Jim Duggan fought Dino Bravo next. Duggan decided to assault Earthquake during the match, which enraged Earthquake, who wanted to get into the ring. Duggan, slime that he is, grabbed his 2x4, cheated and won when he smashed the illegal weapon into Dino's musclehead when the referee wasn't looking. Then, Duggan paid the price as he was decimated by The Earthquake, hopefully never to be seen again. He was crushed so bad, I was told his eyes were knocked straight!!

Ted DiBiase, the "Million Dollar Man" got back his rightful possession, the Million Dollar Belt, from slimy Jake Roberts next, by winning on a countout when Virgil helped his friend back into the ring to beat the count while all the men were out of the ring. The slimy Snake then heinously attacked Teddy D.B., DDT'ed him, stole his money and gave it fans at ringside, then he went after poor Virgil with that despicable snake of his. One of the fans who received money, by the way, once was a big TV star but is now out of work, Mary Tyler Moore, who probably needed every red cent of it!

Next came the corrupt, rednecked cop,

Ted DiBiase won by a count-out over Jake "the Snake" Roberts.

The Big Boss Man, who was facing his ex-friend, Akeem. But DiBiase was still at ringside and he decided to pay the obese cop back for his betrayal of two months ago. He pummelled the cop before the bell, leaving him easy prey for the giant, but Akeem is too stupid (after all he thinks he's an African) and couldn't get the job done. After about two minutes, the corrupt cop slide-slammed and pinned Akeem. Afterwards, the redneck brutalized Slick, his ex-manager, for no reason at all. And you idiots look up to this guy?! He's a complete disgrace!

Only two matches to go, I'm almost home free. "Ravishing" Rick Rude took care of Coconuthead Jimmy Snuka quickly after the primeval creature missed a flying head butt and received a very "Rude Awakening".

Oops, I almost forgot, and how could I forget this?! The debut of Honky Tonk Man's new hit record "Hunka Hunka Honky Love". What a song! But the idiotic Sheepwhackers had to ruin Honky's big day when they ran into the ring and destroyed Honky's two valued guitars. The less said about Greg "Roy Orbison" Valentine, the better! Needless to say, Greg's career is about as dead as Roy is right about now!

Finally, The Ultimate Challenge. The

DiBiase regained possession of his "Million Dollar Belt" with the victory.

Ultimate Imbecile against Chump Hogan, for both belts. Needless to say, Al McGiness rooted for no one here. I was rooting for ultimate destruction, so that two diseases of the sport would be eliminated at once. Both egomaniacs tried to outdo the other with power moves. Let's get something straight right now, this match will never be confused with a Ric Flair-Stink match, but the two behemoths did everything they could do, despite their lack of ability. No-holds-barred here as there were none used. Well, Hogan did use a headlock and power moves disguised as wrestling holds, such as suplexes, also showed up occasionally. The Ultimate Disgrace began to cheat when he attacked Chump's knee, which was injured when Chump was tossed out of the ring. Then, Chump, showing his true colors, started punching and kicking as well. Very late in the match, with neither man at an advantage, The Ultimate Idiot collided with the referee, knocking him out. Chump drove The Idiot head-first into the mat and pinned him, but there was no referee!! Wake up, wake up, stupid!! Then the Idiot back-suplexed and pinned Chump Hogan, still no referee!!! Somebody wake the imbecile up! Finally, the referee woke up and The Ultimate Degenerate press-slammed Chump, body splashed the monolith and went for his usual pin. Surprise! Chump kicked out! Chump did his showboat routine to set up his showboat finish. He whipped The Ultimate Supplemental Food Program into the ropes, gave him the usual foot to the face, then went for the knee drop finish and pin. But wait! The Imbecile rolled out of the way!! He got up, body-splashed the downed Chump and pinned the egomaniac to destroy Hulkamania once and for all!! Finally, after six long years, Chumpamania was finally dead! It's too bad an even worse excuse, Warrior Insanity, is taking its place! A more worthy Champion can, and will, be found. Chump Hogan, baby that he is, began to cry, because he knew his wrestling career was over, as he returned to the ring and handed his worthless strap over to The Ultimate Champion, as sad as that sounds. Then, the worthless Chump left the ring on his cart, crying his little eyes out. In the audience, the Hulkamorons were crying like babies, they knew their reign of power was over. I felt sorry for Chump, his career was in ruins, his future in jeopardy, what can he do for a living now, after the Ultimate Humiliation? Maybe he can get a job sweeping the streets in Tampa, where he lives, but his wrestling days are over!! Now on to the business at hand, The Ultimate Idiot was left in the ring, by himself, the egomaniac holding up both his straps. It was a pathetic sight to see. Stamp out Warrior Insanity, stamp it out, someone, and soon!!■

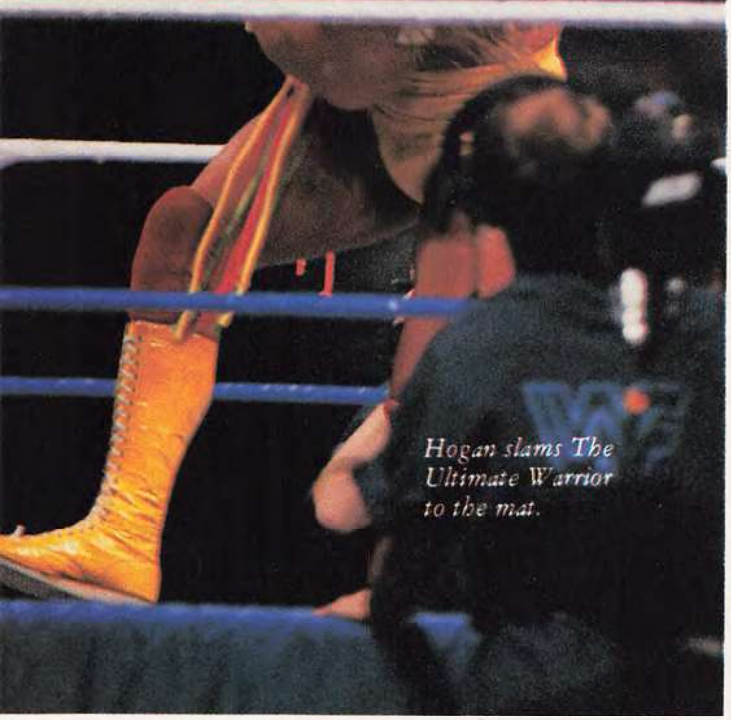
Hulk Hogan and the Warrior choke each other.

The Warrior brings Hogan to his knees with a fingerlock.

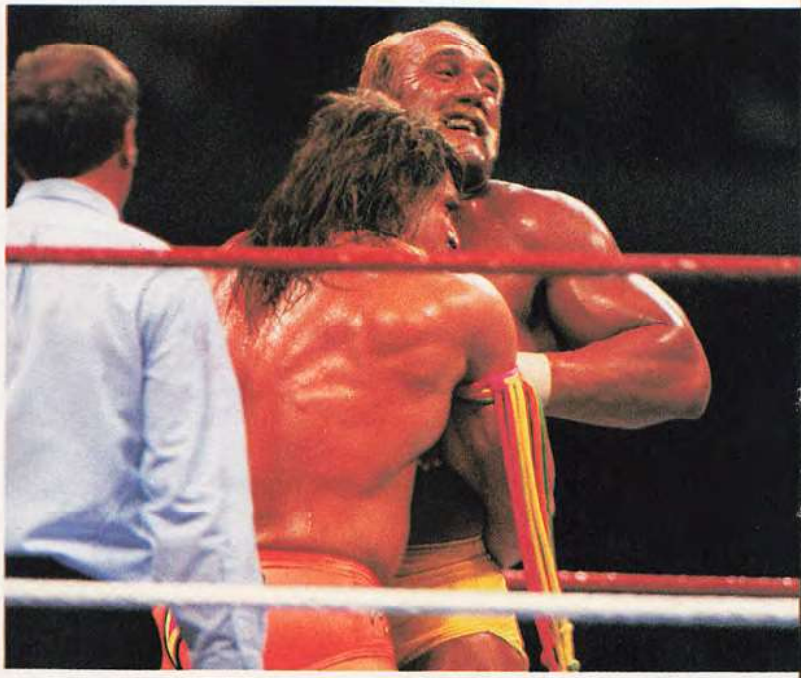
Hogan returned the favor shortly thereafter with his own fingerlock move.

The Hulkster pounds the Warrior in the head from the top rope.

Hogan has The Ultimate Warrior trapped in a headlock.



Hogan slams The Ultimate Warrior to the mat.



Warrior attacks Hogan with a bearhug.

The Warrior smashes Hogan from the ropes.

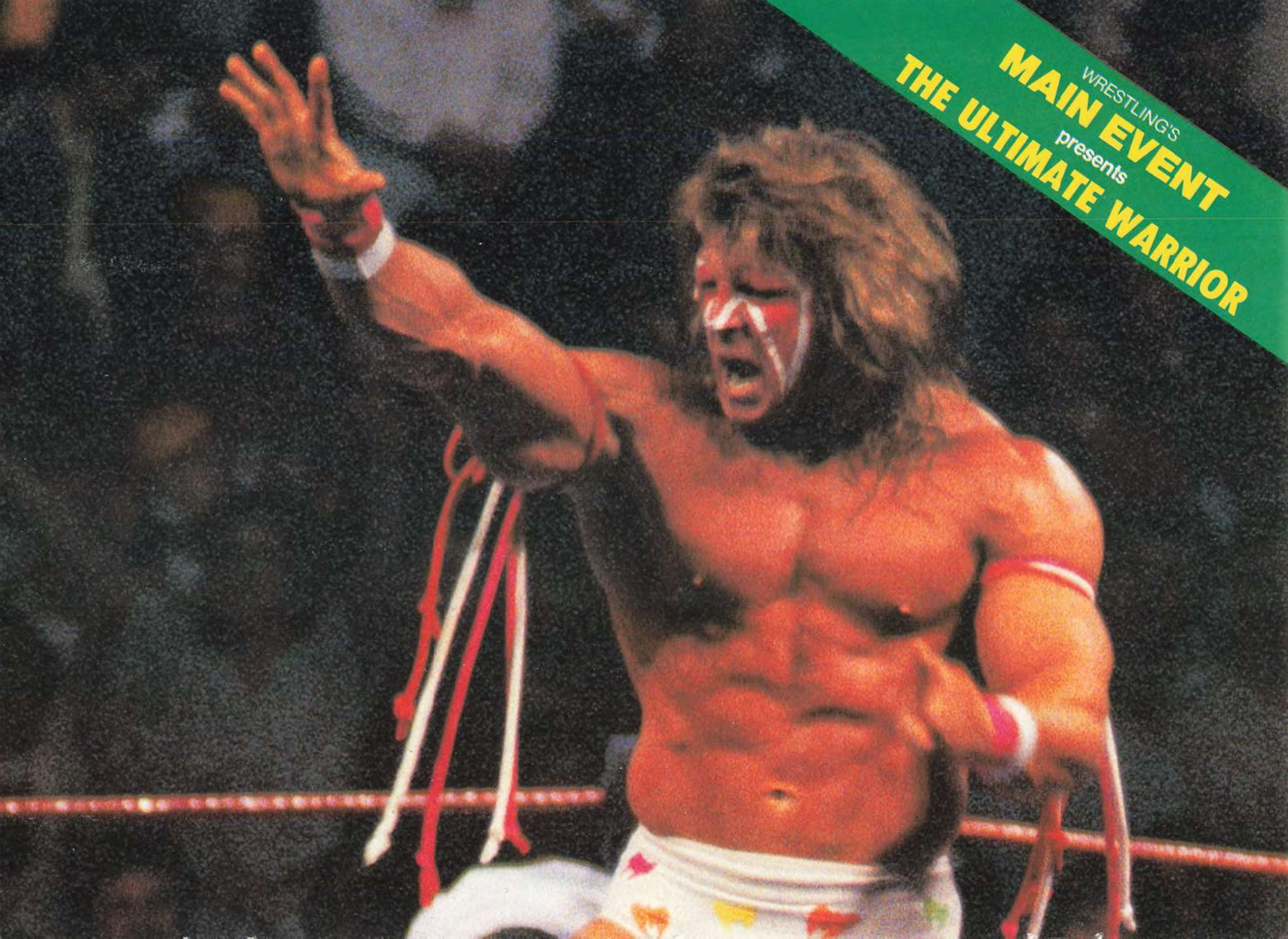
Warrior press-slams Hogan and goes for a pin.

Hogan kicked out and went on the attack, hoping to defeat Warrior.

Warrior completes his title winning pin to become the new WWF World Champion.

A gracious loser hands his belt over to the new Champion.

The Ultimate Warrior displays both belts to the roaring Toronto crowd.


WRESTLING'S
MAIN EVENT
presents
THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR

THE BIG BOSS MAN:

Out To Correct "The Million Dollar Man"

by STEVE PFEFFER

The Big Boss Man has surprised all wrestling fans with his recently reformed ways. He is now bringing "law and order" upon the WWF rulebreakers instead of the fan favorites, as he once did. His first mission is to correct Ted DiBiase, "The Million Dollar Man" and make him pay for past injustices in the WWF. No one is taking the Boss Man lightly, especially DiBiase.

Ted DiBiase has just bought himself a whole lot of trouble. Slick is on a road that could lead to disaster and finish his career as a WWF manager. Both these situations are compliments of one of the best large men in the wrestling business, The Big Boss Man. The line between good and bad is extremely blurred in professional wrestling, sometimes ethics are just totally thrown out the window. But there is a point that most people just won't cross. For each person that point is different, and The Big Boss Man has just reached his point. Granted, he was never a nice guy, he doesn't have any respect for anybody but himself, even when he beats his opponents with a 1...2...3 count he has to rub their faces in the fact that they lost, he has to humiliate people by "arresting" them in public, and never will The Big Boss Man deny any of these facts, even now when the fans are cheering for him. Does The Big Boss Man care about the fans? Does he relish in the cheers of the public night after night? No. But no matter what he thinks about them, the fans are totally behind the Boss Man because of his new mission. His new mission? To rid the WWF of men like Ted DiBiase and Slick.

The Boss Man stares at Ted DiBiase in disgust.

The "Million Dollar Man" made the mistake of giving Slick "dirty money" for having his "main man", The Big Boss Man, do what few people would ever contemplate doing, stick his hand into Jake Roberts' snake bag and retrieve DiBiase's "Million Dollar Belt". During a television taping at which Jake was wrestling DiBiase in a special challenge match, the Boss Man (as per Slick's request) marched down to ringside and attacked "the Snake". Both DiBiase and Boss Man were beating Jake to a pulp. Boss Man then took out his infamous handcuffs and proceeded to cuff Roberts to the ringropes. With Roberts unable to move, DiBiase and Boss Man (with Jake's snake bag over one shoulder) started walking back to the Brother Love Show, which just happened to be starting at that moment. Don't think money doesn't talk to TV production people as well as men like Brother Love. The "Million Dollar Man" was going to have his revenge, he had Roberts' snake bag as well as his "Million Dollar Belt" back and all Jake could do was watch. A lone Jake "the Snake" knelt in the ring

PHOTOS BY JOHN BARRETT, STEVE PFEFFER, JOE ZANOLLE AND JOSH GREGORY

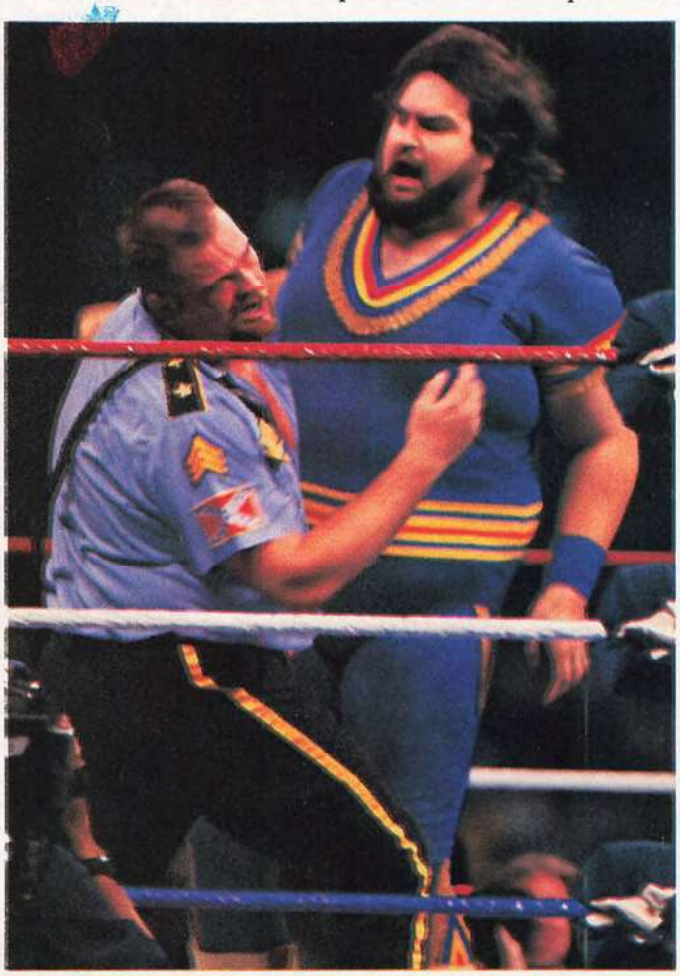
Boss Man refereed some DiBiase-Roberts matches.

Akeem ducks under a Boss Man clothesline.

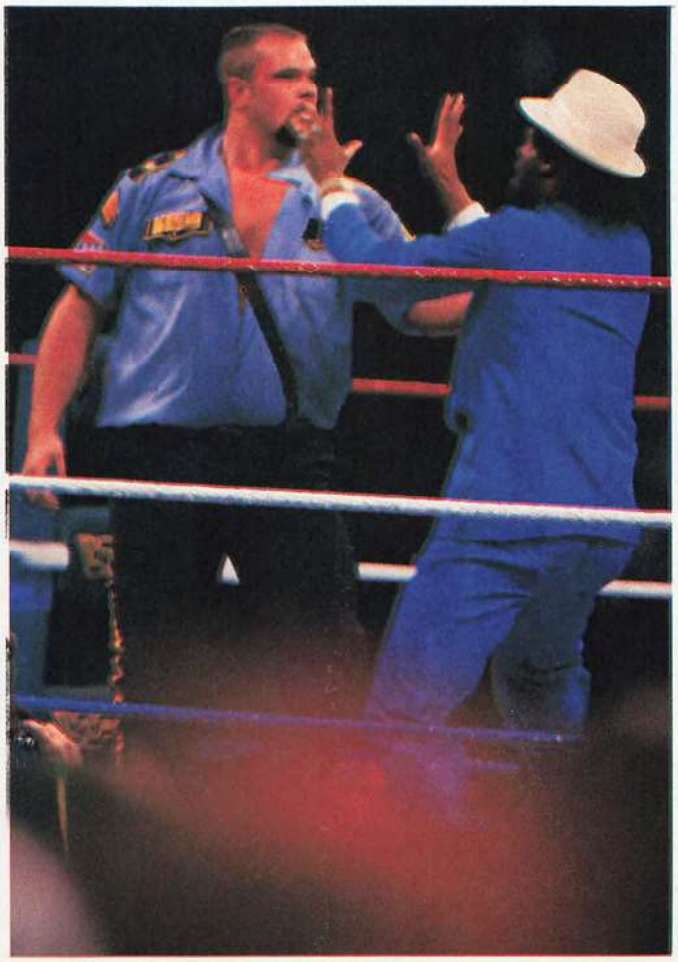
Slick sent Akeem out to finish off his ex-partner, but he failed miserably.

The Twin Towers were once a formidable WWF tag team.

Boss Man whips Akeem into the ropes. Boss Man defeated Akeem in less than two minutes.



Akeem knocks down the Boss Man with his stomach.

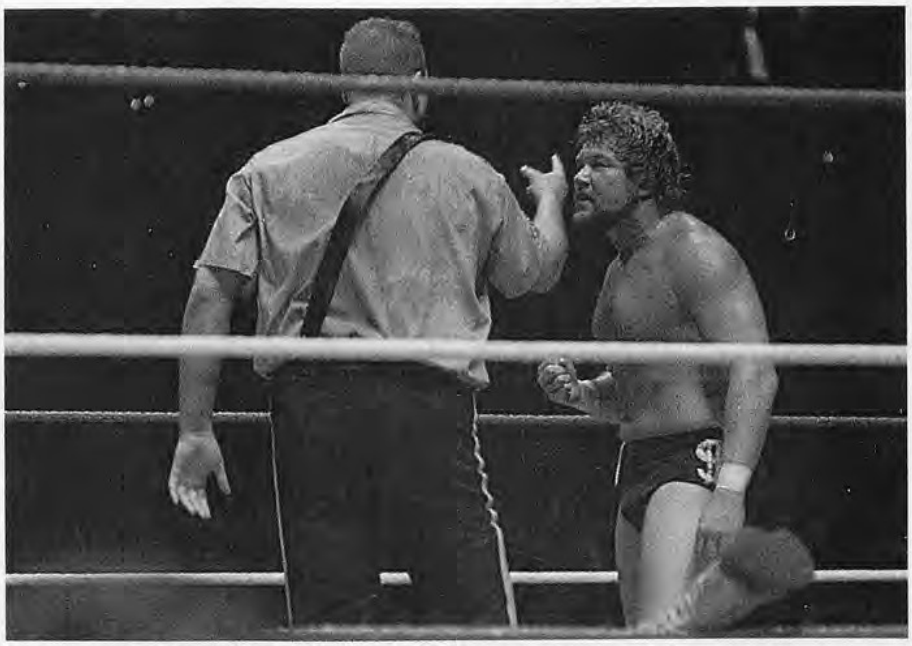


Boss Man reads Slick his "rights" after the match.

unable to move while Ted DiBiase, Virgil, Brother Love, Slick and The Big Boss Man all gloated over their apparent victory. But, lo and behold, "The Million Dollar Man" made a million dollar blunder. So pleased over his apparent victory, and almost being able to taste his belt only just out of arms reach, DiBiase ordered Slick to tell Boss Man to get the belt, saying "I paid you good money". No sooner had DiBiase uttered those famous last words than The Big Boss Man's expression changed from triumph to disgust. Right there and then the massive correction officer reprimanded Slick for accepting "dirty money", for doing a deed that the Boss Man, himself, thought was wrong and unjust. Disgust turned to anger, everybody in the arena could feel the change in the air, like a large black sheet obscuring someone's judgement for too long had finally been removed. The Big Boss Man's eyes have finally been opened. Pushing everybody out of the way, Boss Man reached down for the snake bag, DiBiase glowed with excitement, finally, after all these long months, he was going to see his prized possession once more. But see is all he could do because, no sooner had the Boss Man showed everybody in attendance that he was not afraid of going into Jake's snake bag, he then placed the belt back into Damien's safe care and stormed off the Brother Love set. Slick tried to stop him but got pushed to the floor, DiBiase was busy yelling at Slick to stop the Boss Man as he started to head back down to the ring. Jake Roberts, seeing The Big Boss Man coming back towards the ring, started to squirm in fear of the Boss Man beating. Jake prepared for the worst, he figured it might even be the end of his career, that DiBiase had given Boss Man a little extra incentive to put him out for good. But to everybody's surprise, The Big Boss Man extended the key to his cuffs, and, after a few seconds of hesitation, Roberts was free on his own recognizance. Boss Man then presented the snake bag, belt and Damien into Jake's waiting hands. A new alliance had been formed, The Big Boss Man had seen the errors of his ways and turned to face the responsibilities of law enforcement in the WWF.

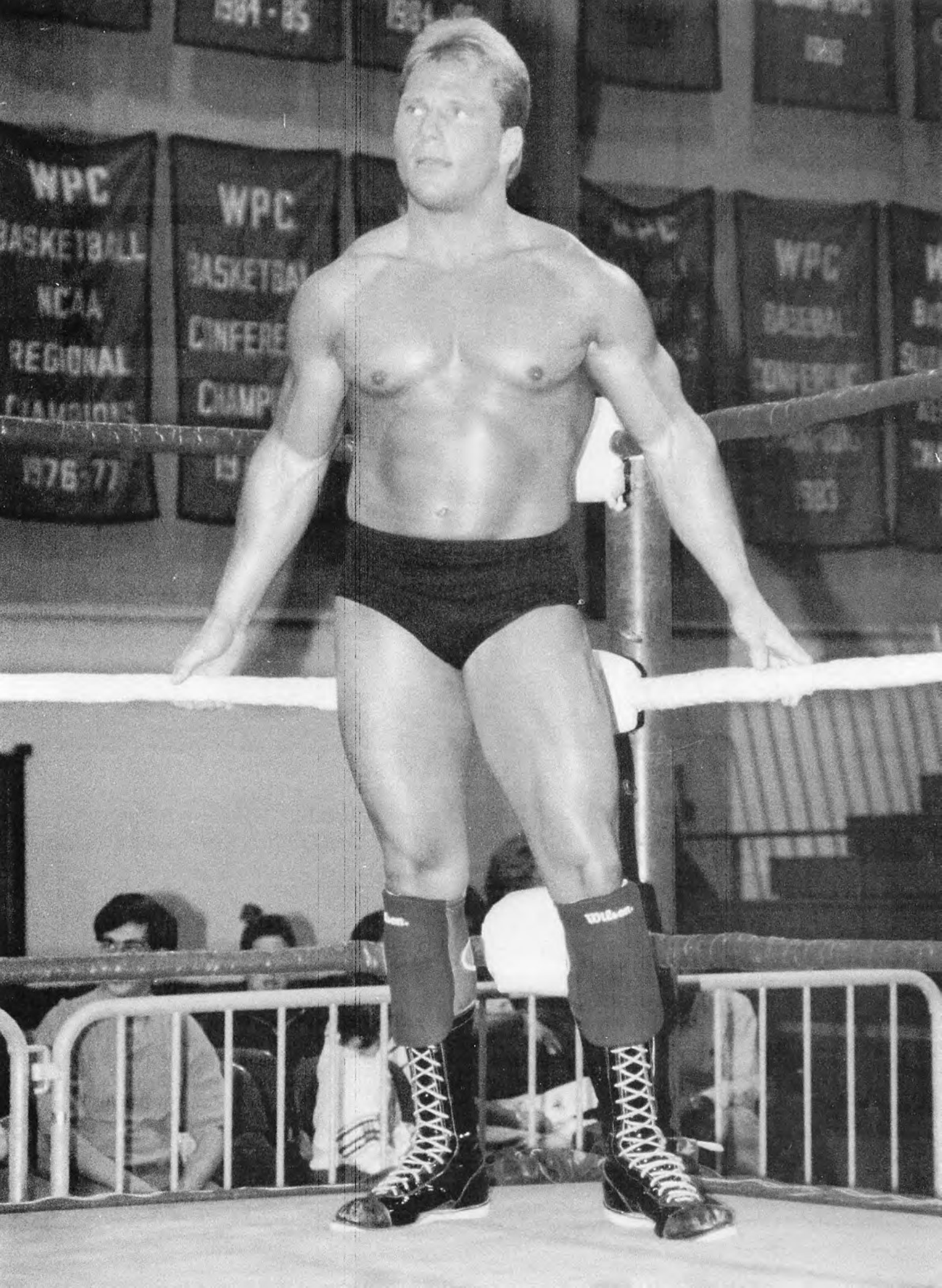
As the acting policeman of the WWF, The Big Boss Man has recently been called upon to put law and order into otherwise out of control matches. Matches like those including Jake Roberts and Ted DiBiase, as well as teaming up with Hulk Hogan against The Powers of Pain on more than one occasion during a one week tour of WWF dates. The Big Boss Man's first mission is to destroy Slick and former tag-team partner Akeem. Looking back at WrestleMania VI, it looks as if Akeem's about finished already, Boss Man destroyed the "African Dream" in less than two minutes, and then proceeded to whip Slick into shape. Ted DiBiase also got some licks in at the beginning of Boss Man's match, so their feud is far from over. But on the other hand, Slick is not about to give up without a fight, he has recently bought the Warlord's contract from the devious Mr. Fuji. So it looks as if The Big Boss Man, now reformed, has declared war against everybody that is associated with either "The Million Dollar Man" or Slick. It covers a large spectrum of possibilities, anybody could show up at anytime to accept this mighty correction officer's challenge.■

Boss Man counts out DiBiase at the Meadowlands.



DiBiase claims The Big Boss Man gave him a quick count-out.

Virgil and DiBiase attack The Big Boss Man afterwards.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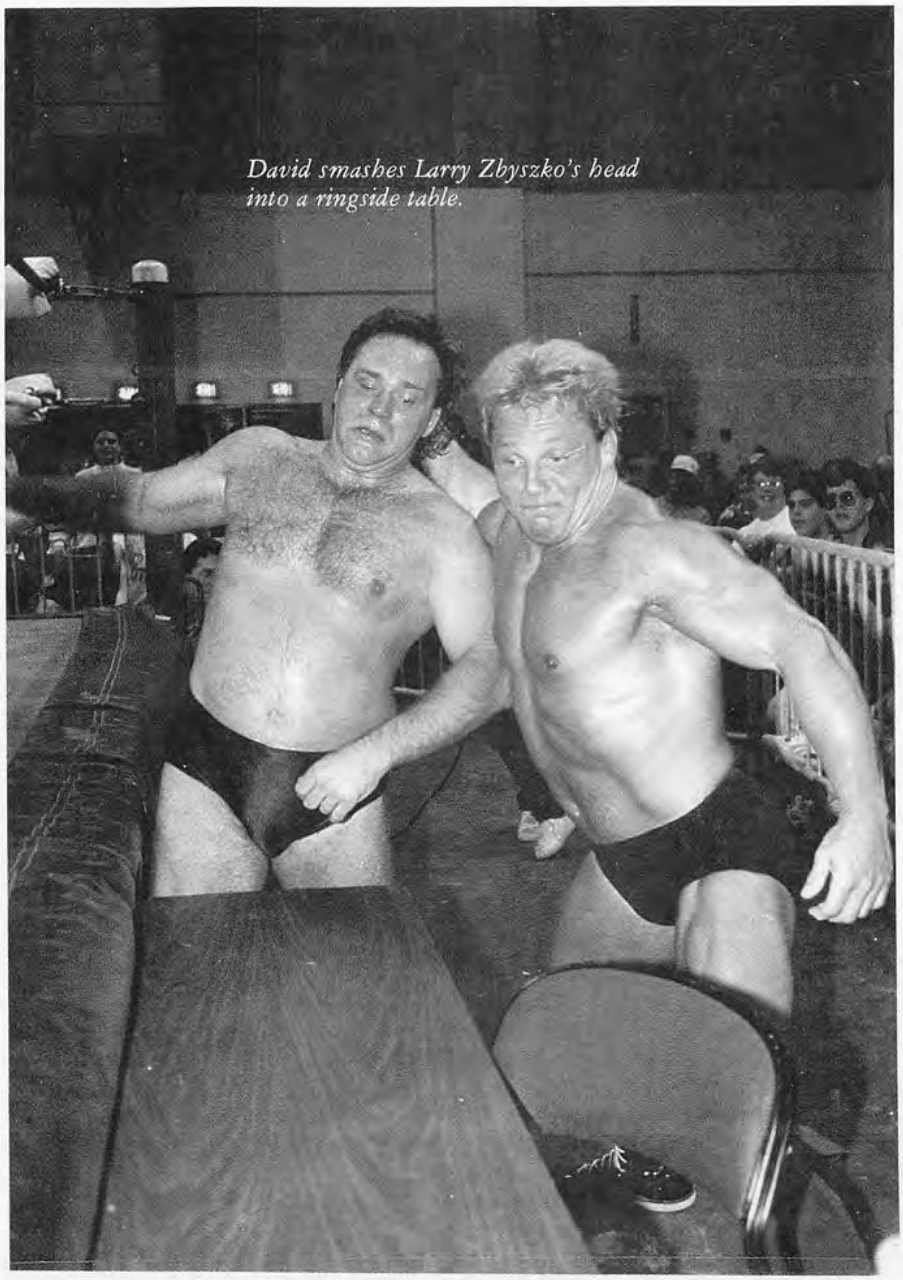
DAVID SAMMARTINO:

DEDICATED TO BECOMING A WORLD CHAMPION

by DON LAIBLE

No, he hasn't abandoned a career on the mat for a position with an automobile dealership or to enter the ranks of the foreign legion. David Sammartino is alive and well and still very much dedicated to being a future professional wrestling champion. It's been several years since David, the eldest of legendary wrestling champ Bruno Sammartino's three sons, has graced the ring in New York's Madison Square Garden or has appeared regularly on a promotion's television program. Swift airplane trips from one booking to another has transformed into long, tedious car drives, often by himself, to civic auditoriums and small arenas for independent groups. Even with such a drastic change in working conditions and earning income, the fighting spirit of David Sammartino hasn't been broken. He's a winner, always projecting a positive outlook. Far from being down for a final count out, Sammartino, Jr. has no plans of walking away from his passion and obsession, wrestling.

In recent years, David has concentrated his talents in the American Wrestling Association. In 1986 in Las Vegas, Nevada's Showboat Sports Pavillion, AWA Heavyweight Champion, Stan Hansen, narrowly squeeked out a victory over David. Not allowing a setback of such magnitude to eat away at him, Sammartino has remained on the AWA titlist's trail. Promoter Joel Goodhart courted David to agree to meet then AWA Champ, Larry Zbyszko, once a close friend of the Sammartino family, in Temple University's McGonigle Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on January 27, 1990. The 1,400 fans on hand for the title encounter "smelled" a change in title ownership. Bruno was in his son's corner for the important match and Zbyszko had the



David smashes Larry Zbyszko's head into a ringside table.

PHOTOS BY STEVE PFEFFER, RICH NIEVES and JOE ZANOLLE

David wrestles for many different promotions. In one he is feuding with Panther Mask.

services of Paul E. Dangerously to call upon.

Zbyszko, a crafty, rulebreaking mat veteran of fifteen years, used his usual trickery to have his hand raised in victory. And when Dangerously attempted to add insult to injury with a cheap shot or two of his own, he learned quickly how dangerous it was to play with fire in between the ring ropes. David Sammartino gave the menacing manager a taste of his own medicine as he confiscated Paul E.'s portable telephone and bashed it over his head. Although the belt remained property of Zbyszko, by far this was the champ's most difficult outing against David. With each shot earned to challenge the AWA champ, David Sammartino has learned and implemented strategies from the weaknesses of Zbyszko.

A few months earlier, the William Patterson College in Wayne, New Jersey was the setting for a Sammartino-Zbyszko slugfest. Again, when Larry appeared to be well on his way to defeat, a low blow to Sammartino, while the referee had his back to the aciton, allowed the AWA champ to exit the "squared circle" with the belt around his waist.

David Sammartino is confident his time will come to shine in a promotion's spotlight once again. At 5'10", 215 lbs., he seems to be a bit on the small size in today's heavyweight ranks. David's weight (which once ballooned up to 250 lbs.) in the ring now is by choice. He tried attacking his fellow pros when bulked up but felt sluggish and stiff when attempting maneuvers that required quick movements. Because David is lighter now than at any other point in his career, looks can be deceiving. David didn't change the shape of his body to lose matches. One of the main reasons for the weight reduction is so he can be as prepared as he possibly can for his tour of Japanese promotions. With less promotions to hook on with full-time in the United States, the Orient has proven to be a viable alternative for American wrestlers to display their mat skills and earn a lucrative salary.

He has signed to perform for All-Japan Promotions. Dick Beyer, known as the masked Sensational, Intelligent Destroyer for several decades in Japanese wrestling circles and a resident of Akron, New York, Terry Gordy and "Doctor Death" Steve Williams are three fellow American grappling greats whom Sammartino has become close friends with when overseas. On March 24, 1989, David's first day and match in Tokyo, Japan, Akira Taue fell in defeat to him. In tag team competition, with "Doc" Williams at his side, the celebrated duo of Jumbo Tsuruta and Genichiro Tenryu learned at the onset of the international encounter that only a career's best effort could down the Americans. With Joel Deaton, Sammartino pursued the All-Asian Tag Team title at the time held by a young, agile twosome billed as The Foot Loose. The tour, which was David's fourth for All-Japan, lasted for four weeks. 'If you're not in tip-top shape mentally as well as physically, the Japanese athletes will break your bones with what looks like a simple kick or suplex. When I came back to the States, I was anxious to have as many matches as could be lined up. Even though they are your opponents, the Japanese teach you new holds and a wrestling lesson every time you get in the ring with them', Sammartino recently stated from his Georgia home.

Sammartino is hanging in on the wrestling scene tougher than ever. Where other promoters and members of the wrestling media have given up on him, David hasn't lost the faith in his abilities. Granted, Larry Zbyszko lost the AWA title to Masa Saito in the Tokyo Dome on February 10, 1990, whether he wins a rematch from his Japanese opponent or not, whoever Sammatino has to go through he is determined to capture the belt. With bookings coming less frequently, it would be easy for David to relax his training schedule for an average lifestyle. Nothing could be further from the truth. If you call Sammartino on the phone, or visit his home, he is one difficult man to reach. He's either out jogging, stretching his limbs at a nearby park or at a local health spa for several hours of lifting weights. David is an extremely health-conscious individual who takes pride in his overall physical appearance. Regular weekly visits to a tanning salon allow him to get the look he desires to be as professional as can be.

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Sammartino's hometown, holds many fond memories for him. But David has no plans on abandoning his adopted city of Smyrna, Georgia. Located a "stone's throw" from Atlanta, the warm climate is what initially attracted him to the South. While touring with the National Wrestling Alliance in the early 1980's for Georgia Championship Wrestling, it was in Smyrna that the budding mat star based himself. At the time, David Sammartino and Brad Armstrong were two of the organization's top rookies. Those glory days in Georgia seem to be a thing of the past that may never return. Oh, David can still compete with the best the sport has to offer. However, with the closing of Jerry Blackwell's Southern Championship Wrestling group in Dawsonville, Georgia and the NWA trimming their talent roster by nearly a dozen competitors in February, 1990, Sammartino is the innocent victim of a numbers game.

'Hey, I'm proud to be a wrestler, pure and simple. I wear trunks and boots and give my best to overpower my challengers

and please fans. Look at me, you can see I'm far from being the biggest guy and certainly not the most colorful wrestler. Light shows and rock music entrances aren't my style. Call me old-fashioned but this I can guarantee you, I certainly can do what's on the arena marquee — wrestle," proclaimed Sammartino.

The family name certainly has drawn a great deal of curiousity wherever David Sammartino has appeared. Many veteran fans have noticed the similarity, not only in looks between David and his famous father, but in his mannerisms and his execution of holds on the canvas. As difficult as it may seem for someone on the outside looking in to comprehend, David stresses the point that he has never felt pressured into living up to the wrestling legacy left by his father. However, there have been times when he has felt the "butterflies" in his stomach.

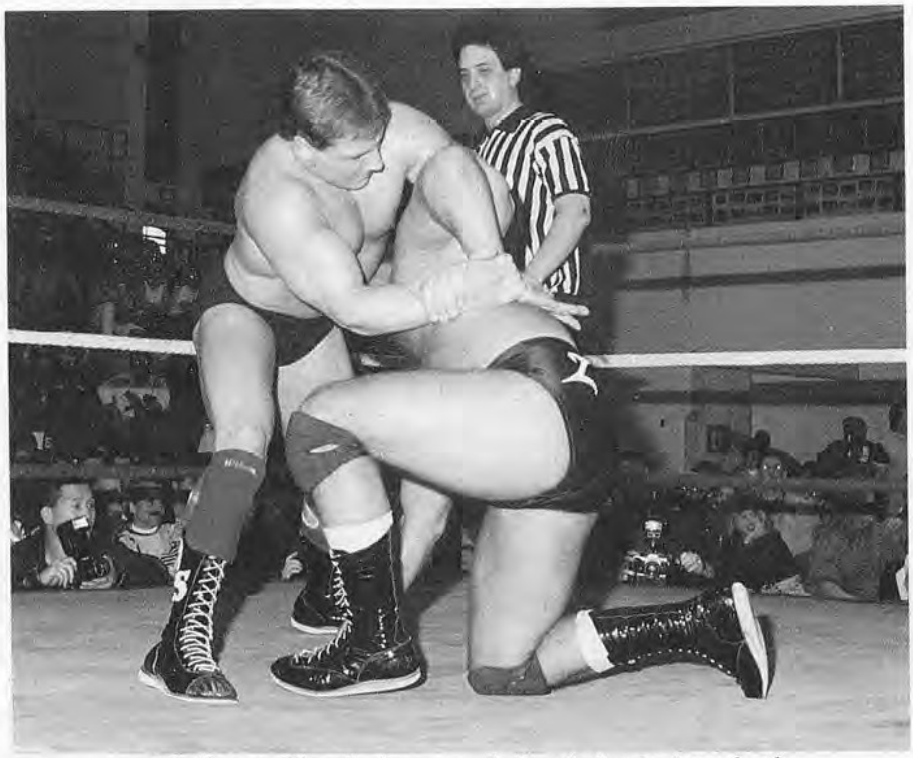
One of David Sammartino's most memorable moments of his career, which spans ten years as a pro, happened five years back when he was led down the aisle in Madison Square Garden by his father on the first WrestleMania extravaganza. With Brutus Beefcake as his challenger and Johnny Valiant in Brutus' managerial corner, David still gets the chills when recalling the thundering ovation he received. Also, David recalls his first ever Garden match, which called for him to oppose Ken Patera, and having Bruno at his side. The moral support on those and other occasions from his father aided in David's smooth transition into the big-time level of competition.

Madison Squre Garden will always be a special place to David Sammartino. He enjoyed some of his career's greatest thrills in it when with the World Wrestling Federation. Unfortunately for both parties, David and members of the WWF management team simply don't mesh. Broken promises and coming out on the short end of double standards set for various wrestlers who were facing the same situations as he, lead to his departure from the WWF in March, 1988. What's important to note, after a turbulent time in and out of the ring, there is no bitterness, only content felt by Sammartino. David's wife, Pam, and their 3½ year old daughter, Ashley, are the pillars of strength he relies on to keep a clear focus on the direction of his career and life. They are enjoying having David at home for longer periods of time than in the past, unlike the daily grind most wrestlers are subjected to as they are away from their loved ones as much as a month at a time.

There never will be anything gimmicky about David. He's worked hard at gaining acceptance in the wrestling world on his skills. The offers from promoters have come his way to wear a mask, take on a new identity, anything to suit their needs. All offers have been, and will continue to be, turned down. Believe it or not, only one title has come David Sammartino's way since he won his pro debut in Amarillo, Texas against Alex Perez. David captured the Southern title recognized by Blackwell's promotion in 1989.

Next to chasing Larry Zbyszko, Johnny Valiant is who Sammartino rates as his most tenacious challenger. Both men are viewed by David as being similar in tactics and attitude. 'David is not a follower, he has always done what he feels is right, not only for himself but for others involved. He's too darned good not to be touring with one of the major promotions as he can pick out a move a mile away. I've seen him in Brooklyn, New York recently take apart Ivan Koloff, Valiant and two other wrestlers on the same TV taping and not appear to be burned out', Big John Studd explained.

It ain't over until it's over. There are more exciting chapters to be added to his and the Sammartino family record books. Like a sleeping bear waking up after hibernation, 1990 promises to be the year David makes a lot of noise and his presence known to the entire wrestling establishment again. There's no fat lady singing a tune around David Sammartino, she wouldn't dare!■



David traps Zbyszko in an arm lock and clamps down hard.

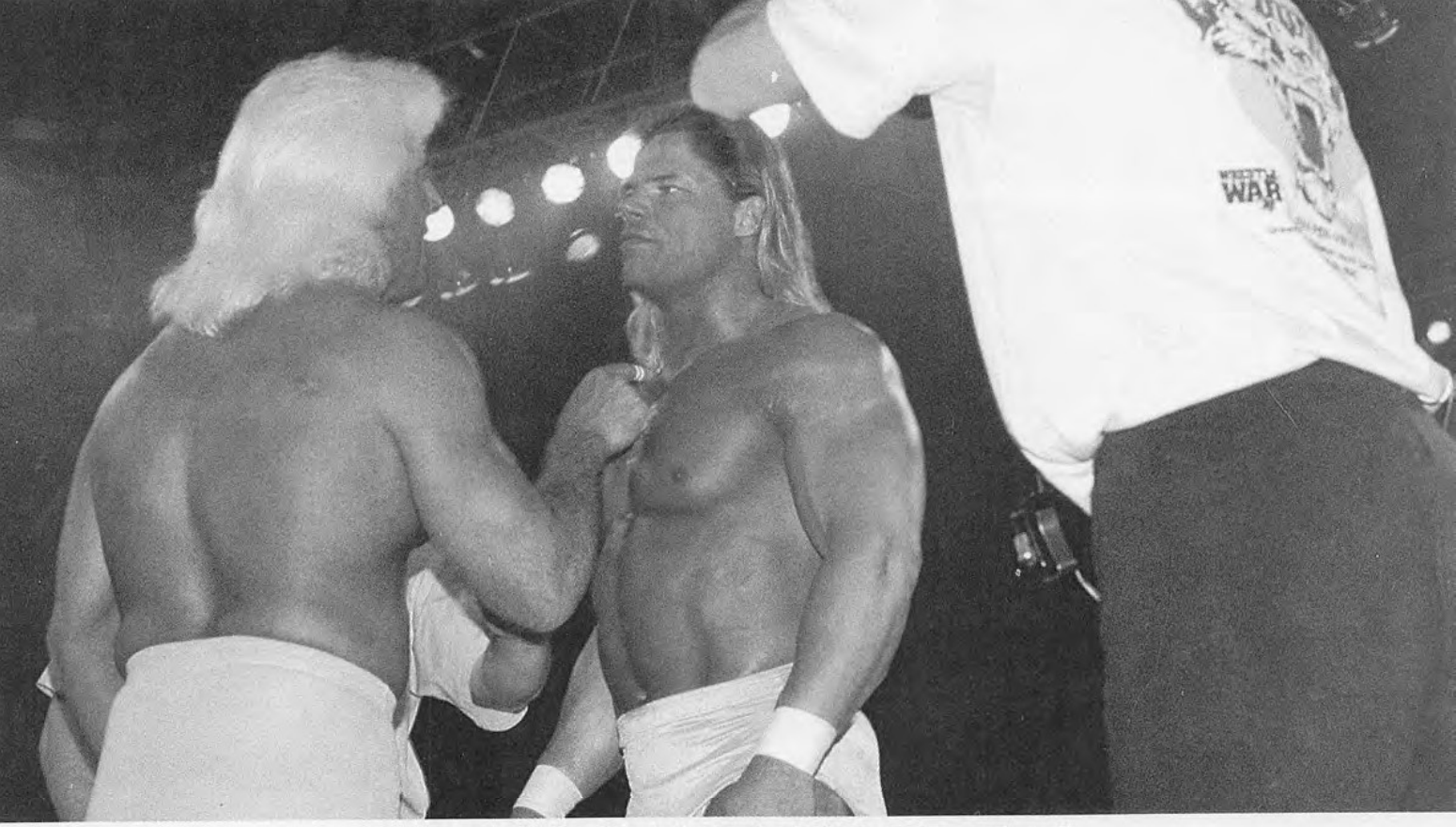
LEX LUGER vs. RIC FLAIR AT "WRESTLEWAR '90" IN GREENSBORO, N.C.

Lex Luger nearly achieved his dream this past February 25th at "WrestleWar '90" in Greensboro, N.C., where he nearly defeated Ric Flair to become the NWA World Heavyweight Champion. Only the deviousness of Arn and Ole Anderson, who earlier had come to the ring and attacked Luger when referee, Nick Patrick, was knocked unconscious, saved Flair, when they attacked a helpless Sting, who had hobbled to ringside to give Luger his support. Luger, who had Flair helpless in the "Human Torture Rack" at the time, saw the Andersons attack Sting. Lex, enraged, released Flair from the hold, exited the ring and fought the Andersons while Patrick reluctantly counted him out of the ring, giving Flair a very unpopular and tainted victory.

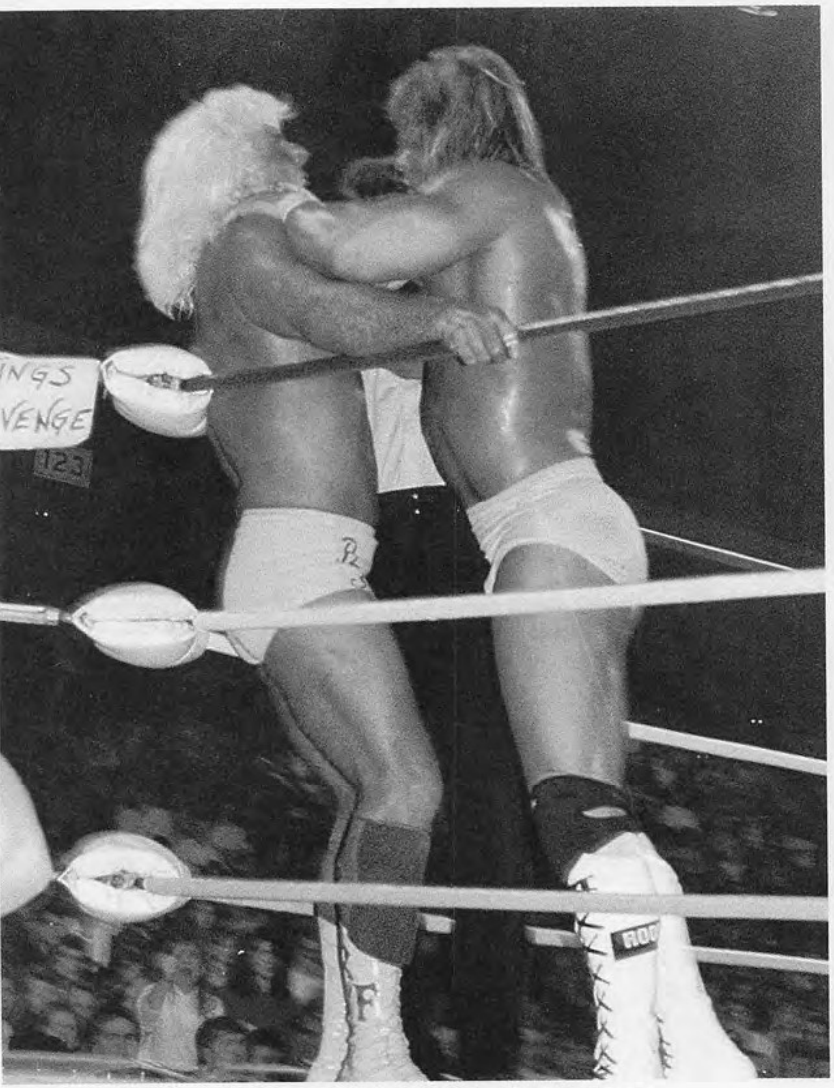
The match was a classic battle of two titans, both of whom refused to give up their quest to be on top of the NWA. Approximately forty minutes long, each man held the advantage several times in the match, Luger with his various power moves and Flair with his cheating and finesse tactics. The turning point for Luger came when Sting hobbled to ringside after Luger had been trapped in Flair's figure-four. Sting screamed at Luger, telling him he could beat Flair and then, after receiving little response, Sting slapped Luger in the face, which brought the "Total Package" back to life. With renewed vigor, Lex attacked Flair and went all out for the title, Flair did his best to keep up the pace, and, in the process, knocked out Patrick with a clothesline. Lex was able to pin Flair, but there was no referee to count it. The Andersons, watching on a TV monitor in the dressing room, ran to the ring and attacked Luger, who eventually fought them off. Flair pinned Luger as Patrick was recovering, but Luger escaped and caught Flair in the "Rack". He faced the Andersons daring them to interfere. Instead of testing Luger, they went after Sting, who was still using crutches to help himself stand and walk. Luger dropped Flair, and cost himself the World Title, by going out of the ring to help Sting, just as the Andersons had hoped. After the match ended, the battle between the Horsemen and Luger continued until Rick and Scott Steiner came to the ring to help Lex. After clearing the ring of the Horsemen, Sting, Luger and the Steiners stood mid-ring and shook hands, thus reviving past friendships.

Based on this showing, it is apparent that Lex Luger is on the threshold of his dream—the NWA World Heavyweight Championship, and may even be the champion as you are reading this. The Andersons should be reviled for attacking a helpless man, such as Sting, and, once again, Ric Flair escaped by the skin of his teeth, but for how long??■

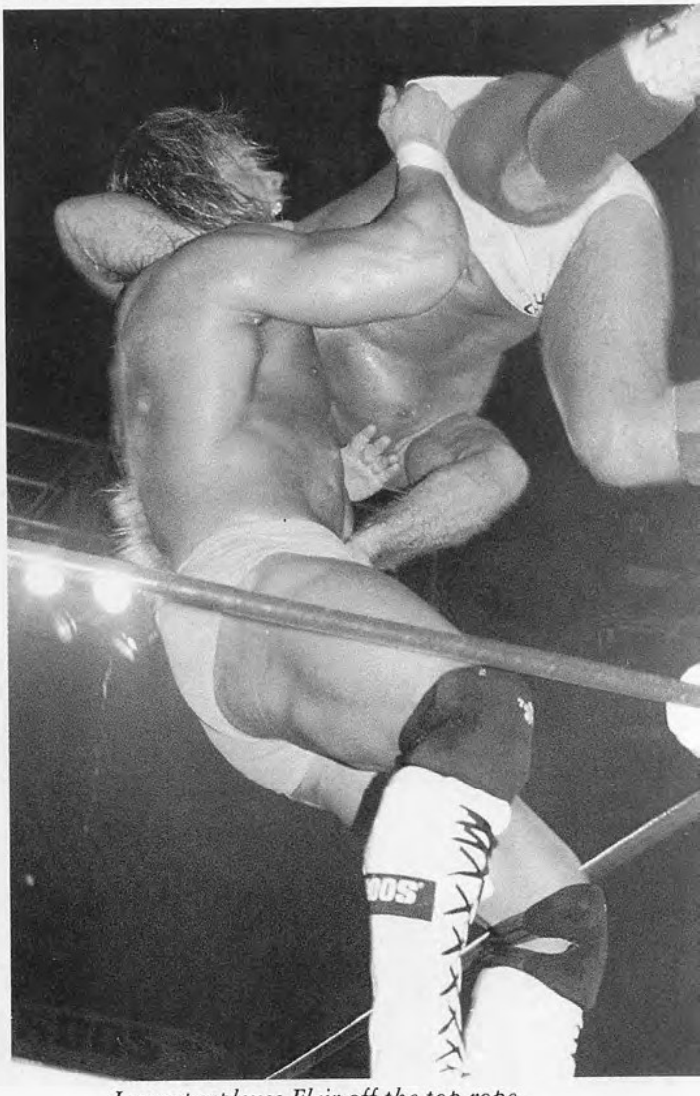
PHOTOS BY DEBRA MOSER



Flair tries to intimidate his challenger, but it didn't work too well at all.

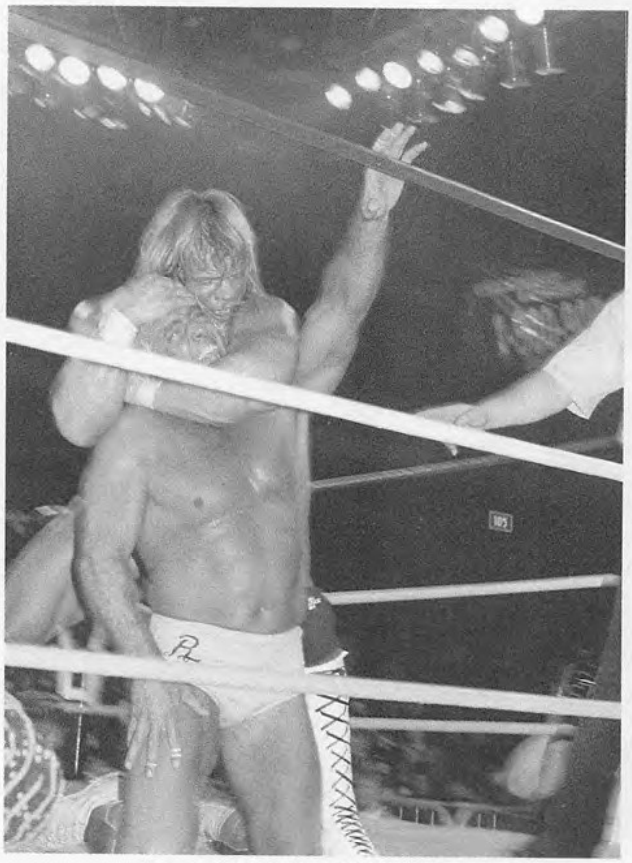


Luger chokes Flair in the ring corner.

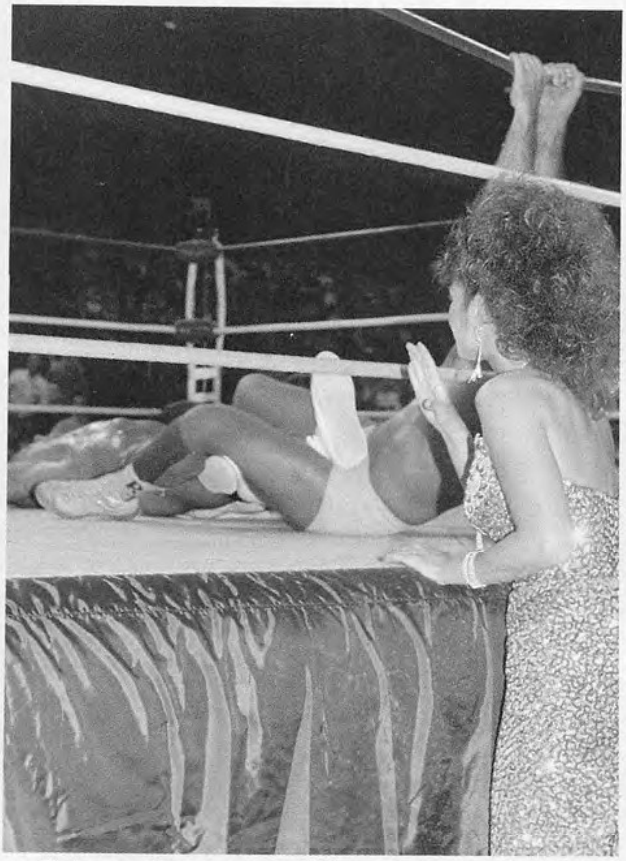


Lex superplexes Flair off the top rope.

Flair uses finesse to overcome Luger's size and strength advantages with an arm lock.



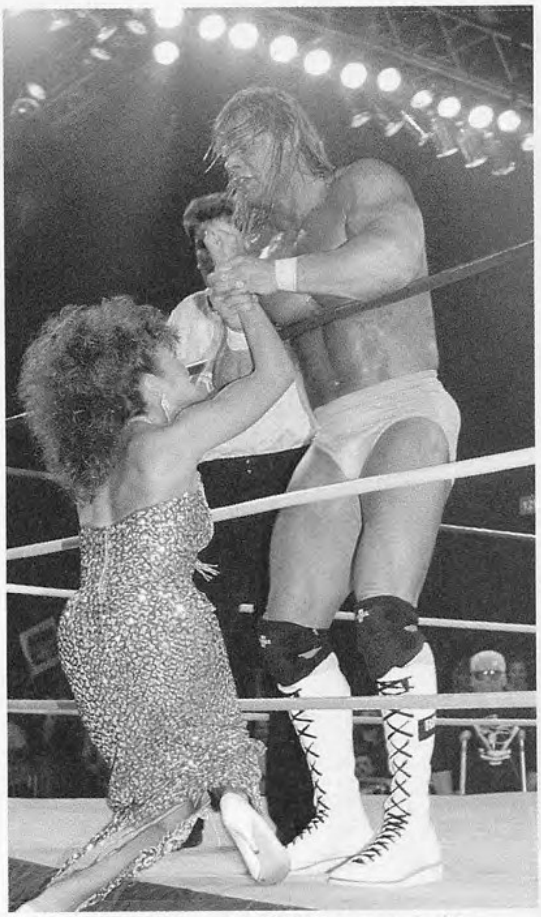
Luger tries to put Flair to sleep.



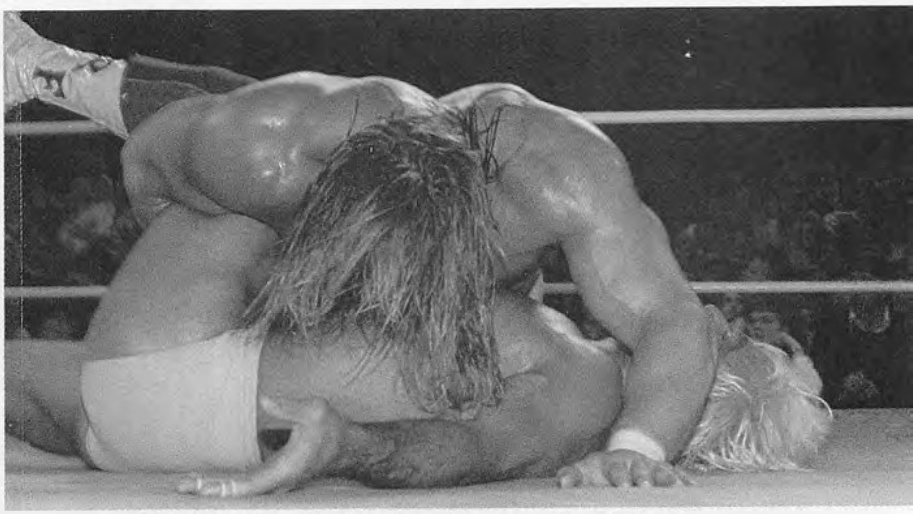
Flair uses the ropes to add leverage to the figure-four.

Sting comes to ringside to give Luger support.

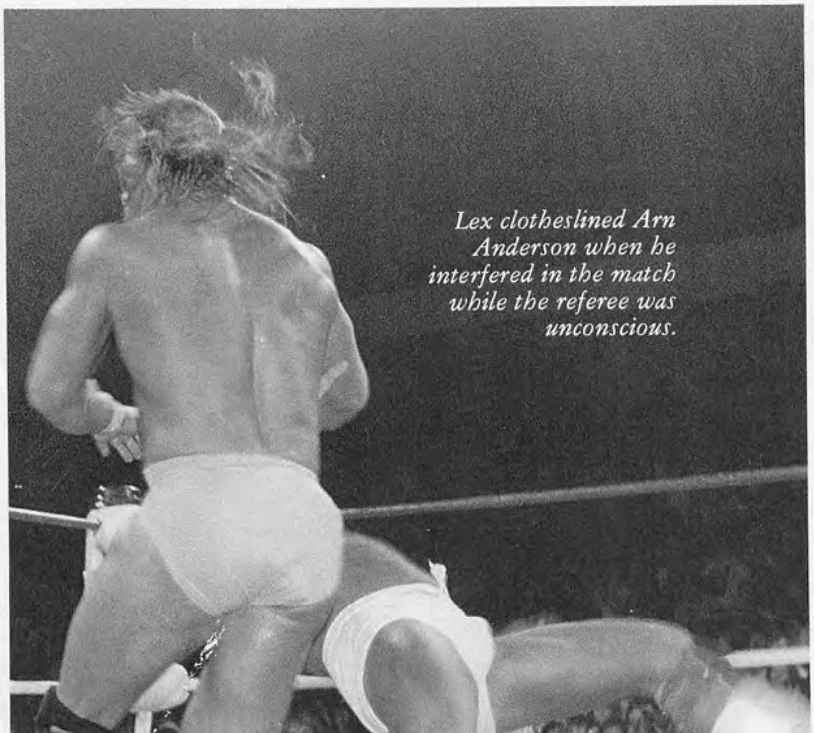
Sting gives Lex vocal encouragement, then slaps him in the face.



When Woman interfered, Luger dragged her onto the ring apron.



Flair gets pinned, after the referee was knocked out.



Lex clotheslined Arn Anderson when he interfered in the match while the referee was unconscious.

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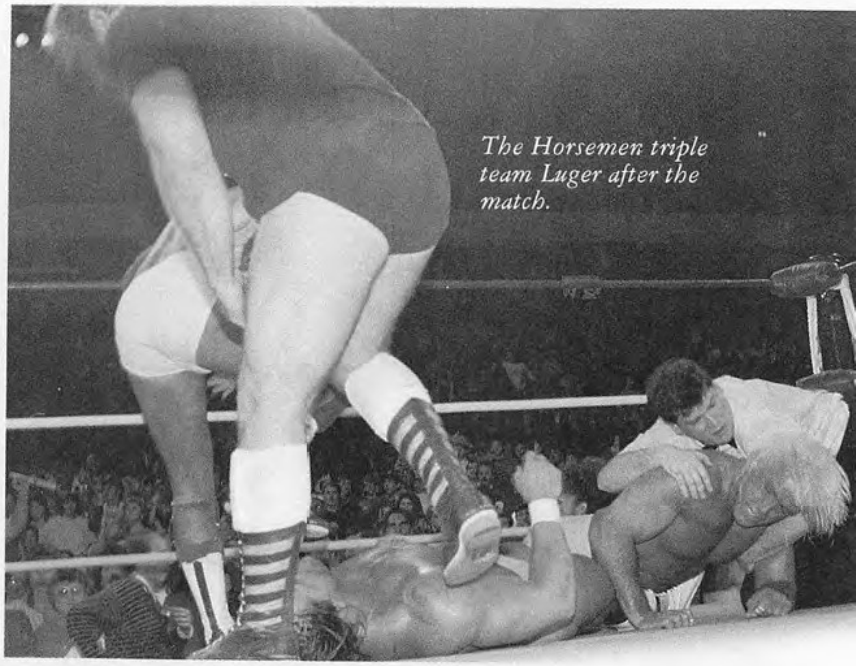
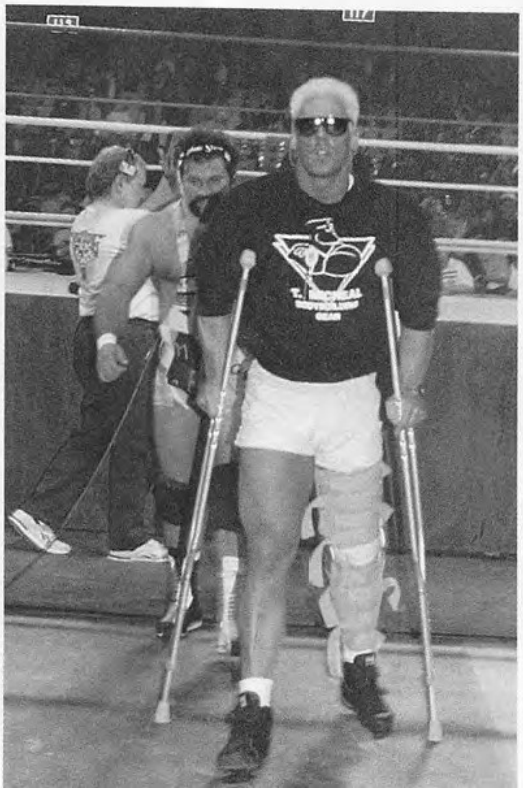
Luger traps Flair in the "Torture Rack", daring the Andersons to interfere.

Lex leaves the ring to help Sting, who was attacked by Ole and Arn.



The Horsemen triple team Luger after the match.



Sting leaves the ring area with Luger and the Steiners after the match.

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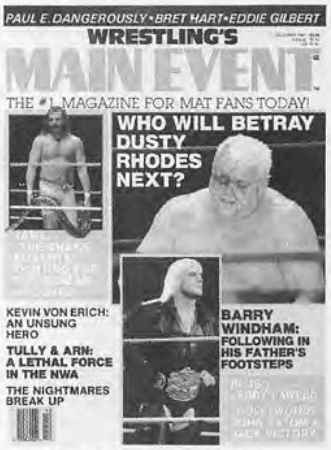

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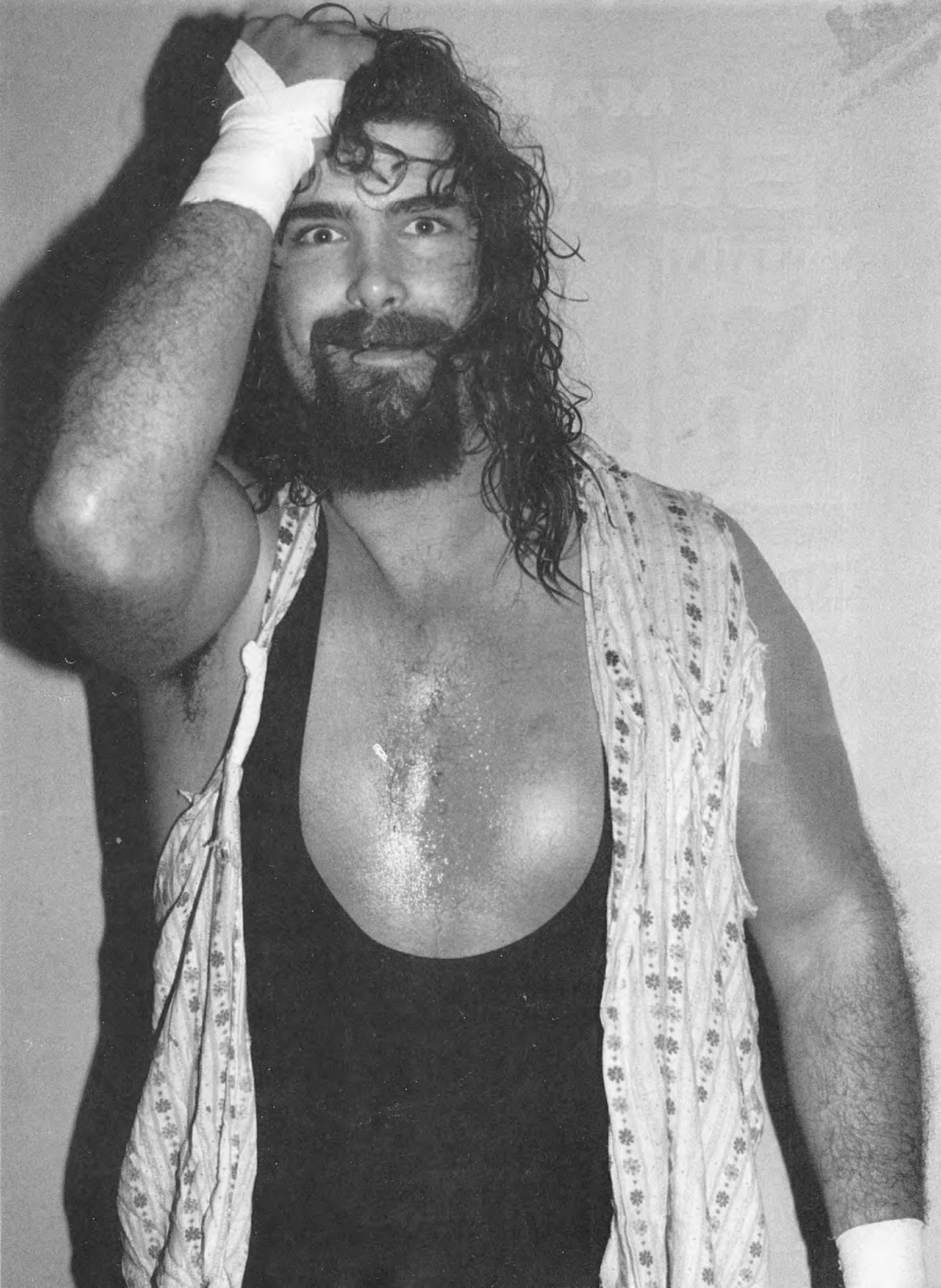

CACTUS JACK IS PSYCHOTIC!

by SANDY KREBS

Cactus Jack is quickly making a reputation in the NWA, and it is all bad. This maniac has joined forces with the devious Kevin Sullivan to wreak havoc against Norman, Capt. Mike Rotunda and the "good boogeyman", Abdullah the Butcher.

Another in a long line of homicidal maniacs has joined the NWA, this time in the form of a man called Cactus Jack. Fans nationwide are beginning to see what east coast wrestling fans have known for several years, Cactus Jack is psychotic, not afraid of pain, loves to hurt people and, someday, will be a big star in the sport.

Born in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, twenty-four years ago, Cactus Jack moved east several years ago, because he knew that's where the toughest wrestlers are and he liked beating up tough guys. I go back a long ways with this man. I first saw him in 1988, at an independent wrestling card which was held in Brooklyn, N.Y. I had just become editor of this magazine and this show was my first representing the magazine in my new capacity. Jack was scheduled to wrestle on the undercard against the best independent wrestler on the east coast, The Cheetah Kid. Jack had his eyes on Cheetah because he wanted to be the best, and to be the best you have to beat the best. Their feud had started several months back, wild-and-woolly battles between the star and the upstart who wanted to be the star. It wouldn't end this night either, they fought to a wild double count-out, battling around the arena. Later on in the evening, while in the dressing room, I couldn't help but notice that Cactus Jack was staring intently at me, with a gleam in his eyes. After watching the way he had brutalized Cheetah, I knew Jack was not playing with a full deck and I was a bit worried about my future in this business!

Two weeks later, our paths crossed once again, this time at a show on Long Island, where Jack was to face "Gentleman" Chris Adams in the feature match on the card. Adams used his vast experience to defeat Jack, after a thirty minute battle which, at one point, left the arena, but I was very impressed with the youngster's showing. Afterwards, once again I noticed Jack staring me down, in the dressing room, as I was introducing myself to Adams. I was a bit afraid, but I cautiously approached Jack with my hand extended. He refused to shake it, so I said "Jack, you are really good!" He looked down at me and gave out a sickening cackle and said, with a evil gleam in his eye, "Yeah, I know", and he continued to laugh to himself as I moved quickly out of his range.

Cactus Jack jackhammers "Nasty" Ned Beatty into the Greensboro Coliseum floor.

Our paths crossed a few more times that spring as Jack continued to make a reputation for himself in wrestling, then he disappeared. Soon I learned that Robert Fuller had signed Jack to become part of the "Stud's Stable" in Tennessee. It figured somebody like Fuller would be interested in someone like Cactus Jack, Jack could care less what he does to people and Fuller could care less whom he hurts, too. Fuller teamed Cactus Jack up with Gary Young and those two won the CWA Tag Team Titles. This was good and bad for Cactus Jack. Good because he had won a major title, bad because Fuller's jealousy caused a break-up of the "Stud's Stable" when he demanded Jack and Young relinquish the belts to himself and his cousin, Jimmy Golden. Jack and Young refused, and this resulted in a wild brawl at the WMC-TV studios, and, by the time it was over, a new feud had started and, for the only time in

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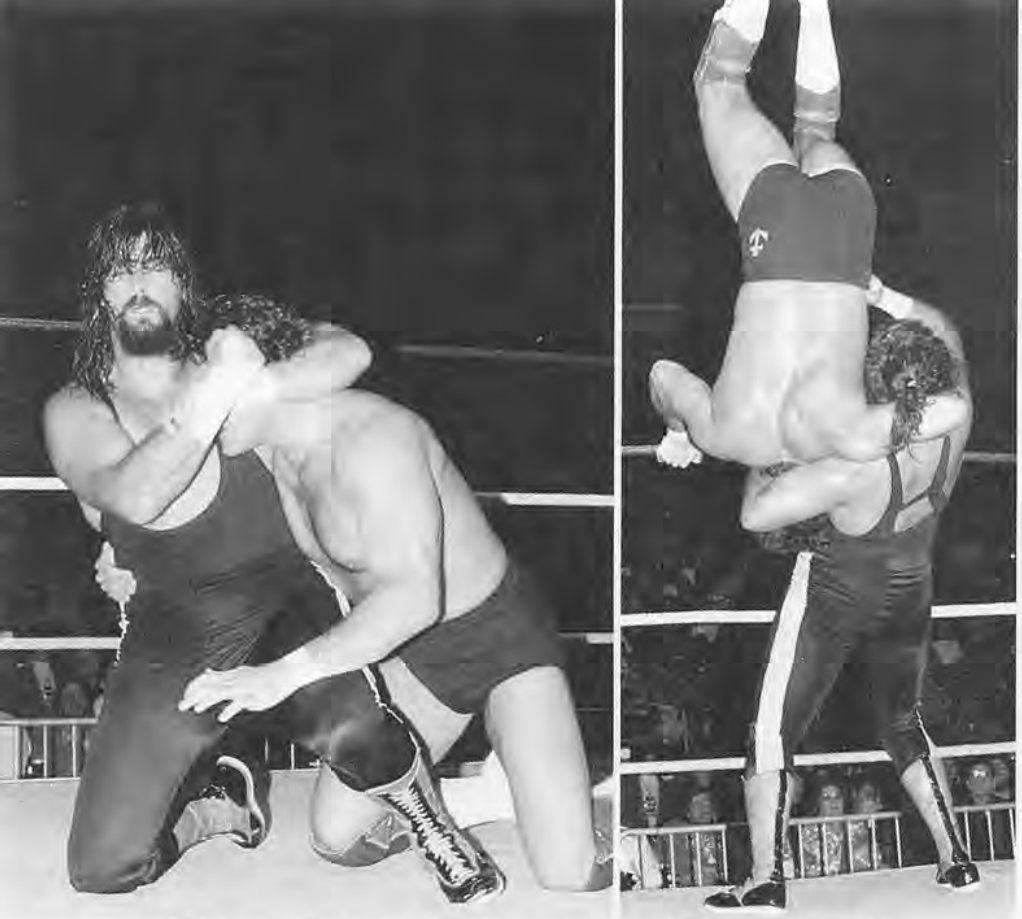

Jack is currently involved in a feud with Capt. Mike Rotunda and Norman.

his violent career, Cactus Jack was a fan favorite.

Soon, not wanting to be cheered, Jack and Young left Tennessee, after losing the belts to Fuller and Golden. Jack went on a tour of Africa and there he almost lost his life. After beating a local Nigerian hero severely, the fans in attendance rioted and attacked Jack. Jack and the police fought off the crowd, but Cactus Jack was severely battered and had to go to a hospital, he had lost quite a bit of blood. He took one day off to recover and was back in the ring, none the worse for wear, two days later, enjoying beating up the unprepared African superstars.

Returning from Africa, Jack was hired by Scandor Akbar to be a mercenary in "Devastation, Inc." in Texas. He immediately became involved in Akbar's feud with Eric Embry. The two battled for more than four months, as Akbar knew Jack was the man he was looking for, the man who could put Eric Embry out of wrestling forever! Jack became the fattest "World Jr. Heavyweight Champion" ever, when Embry had the weight restrictions for his belt lifted, so he could get Jack in the ring. Using underhanded tactics, Jack won the belt on New Year's Eve, 1988. One week into 1989, Jack dropped the belt back to Embry. Soon, with Jack's help, Gary Young ran Embry out of Texas, by winning a losers-leave-town match. But Embry never left Texas and petitioned the WCCW to come back, due to the controversial way he lost. About a month later, Embry was reinstated into the WCCW, which set up the most heinous event that occurred in wrestling in 1989.

Within weeks of returning, Embry had forced Akbar to sign a cage match, loser-leaves-town. Just as Embry was about to beat Akbar, Gary Young and Cactus Jack came out from underneath the ring. They had hid there earlier in the day, and stayed under the ring undetected throughout the entire card. Now, with their manager getting beaten and about to be forced out of town, they made their presence known and had a baseball bat with them. As several other wrestlers, and Percy Pringle, tried to climb into the cage to help Eric, Jack, Young and Akbar took turns swinging the bat into different parts of Embry's body. Soon, Eric was a bloody, helpless mess. After his friends finally got into the ring and chased Akbar and his henchmen away, Embry started to vomit and had to be rushed to a hospital, where he stayed for several days. The feud intensified, in the process, Jack and Young became Texas Tag Champions, as well as WCCW World Tag Champions. Jack became known as one of the most brutal men in the sport.

In August, Embry defeated Cactus Jack in a loser-leaves-town battle and Jack left Texas for the CWF, where he reunited with Robert Fuller and Brian Lee, and feuded with another rulebreaker, "Rotten" Ron Starr, who quickly found the fans on his side, for a change. When the CWF folded in December, Jack decided to go to the NWA, he felt he was ready for the big-time and big money and he wanted to hurt some of the world's most popular wrestlers. Unfortunately, the first night he appeared in the NWA was the night I gave out the WME's to the NWA winners in Greensboro, N.C. Once again I had to endure a night in the dressing room area with a maniac staring at me throughout the evening. Finally, he came my way, as I looked around for a way out of the arena. "I remember you," he said. "Just stay out of my way, I'm going to the top and I'm going to hurt a lot of people in the NWA before I'm through!"

Cactus Jack was too confident, as he went out later on, with teammate, "Nasty" Ned Beatty, and lost his first NWA match, when Brady was pinned. Jack made believe he was helping his partner up when he delivered a vicious clothesline to Beatty, which knocked Ned out of the ring. Then Jack jumped off the ring apron, elbow first onto Ned's outstretched body. Beatty was carried from ringside on a stretcher. Jack continued to have his problems getting off the ground in the NWA, anytime he lost a match, he would go crazy. If he lost a tag match, he beat up his partner. One such incident brought Sting to the ring to help the victim, Jack just stared at Sting and dared him to come into the ring and fight. Jack probably didn't even know, or care, who Sting was. Jack was teamed with Capt. Mike Rotunda, a few weeks later, for a match against The Dynamic Dudes. After Jack was pinned to lose the match, he attacked Rotunda viciously, battering him into a ring post. Mike was saved by Norman, who helped Capt. Mike see the light and now is Norman's best friend.

All these incidents between Cactus Jack and his partners and opponents came to the attention of one Kevin Sullivan, the deranged, evil genius. He saw something he liked and felt, with his guidance, Cactus Jack could truly be a force to be reckoned with in the NWA. Sullivan has been teaching Cactus Jack how to be more vicious in the ring and not to care what he does to an opponent. Jack has improved tremendously in the few months he has allied himself with Sullivan's "Slaughterhouse". "Slaughterhouse" is involved in a feud with Norman, Rotunda and the "good boogeyman", Abdullah the Butcher at present. As can be expected, any match between these men has no rules and is an all-out brawl. Four of the men involved are insane. It is a feud which does not appear to be ending soon.

Little by little, Cacuts Jack is learning about life in the NWA and what it takes to be a success there. Unfortunately, he is becoming successful and it looks like this psychopath will follow in a long line of psychos, men such as Terry Funk, Buzz Sawyer, Kevin Sullivan and, yes, Abdullah the Butcher, and be in the NWA for a long, long time to come.■

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An Exclusive Interview With "HARDROCK" PAUL DIAMOND: Confident And A Winner

by DAWN LOCKWOOD

"Hardrock" Paul Diamond is one of wrestling's top, young stars. Before leaving the AWA for the WWF, Paul granted WME an exclusive interview. Here is a personal look at Paul Diamond, his in-the-ring goals and his outside the arena life.

After catching up with this up-and-coming star of the wrestling world, I was granted a brief interview. I hope this interview enlightens you as to the lifestyle of "Hardrock" Paul Diamond.

WME: Let's start off with some basic information about you, such as your birthday, height, weight, favorite color, favorite food, favorite arena, favorite TV show, favorite movie, and such.

PD: My birthday is May 11th, height is 6', weight is 237 lbs., color is blue, food is chicken, arena, well they are all about the same so I don't have a favorite, TV show would be Andy Griffith, movie is "Raiders of the Lost Ark", as far as singer or actor, I like a lot of people and nobody really sticks out in my mind, hometown is Thunder Bay, Ontario, rock group is Journey, eye color is green, hair color is brown.

WME: What areas have you worked in since starting your career?

PD: I have worked in Georgia, Texas, Tennessee, Florida and AWA.

WME: Were you a wrestling fan while growing up?

PD: I wasn't really a wrestling fan, I watched it once in a while, didn't have any favorites, didn't really give it much thought at the time.

WME: Did watching wrestling influence you to become a pro wrestler or did someone within your circle of friends influence you?

PD: Watching wrestling did influence my career because I considered myself a pretty good athlete, so I thought I could do what I was watching pretty well.

Paul is very relaxed before a match.

WME: Were you into any sports in high school or college that got you started in the athletic endeavors?

PD: I was into different sports in high school and college. I played hockey, basketball, and soccer in high school and went out to play college soccer and even played professional soccer for four years.

WME: When did you turn professional and who trained you?

PD: I started wrestling in 1984 after I was trained in Florida by Boris Malenko.

WME: Since becoming a pro, what would you consider to be some of the most memorable moments you've had?

PD: Of course, one that definitely sticks out in my mind would have to be winning the AWA World Tag Team belts.

WME: How do you prepare for a match?

PD: I prepare for a match by looking at who my opponent is pretty much in advance, as much in advance as I can. I try and think about different moves and things that I will have to do to help me win a match with this particular opponent.

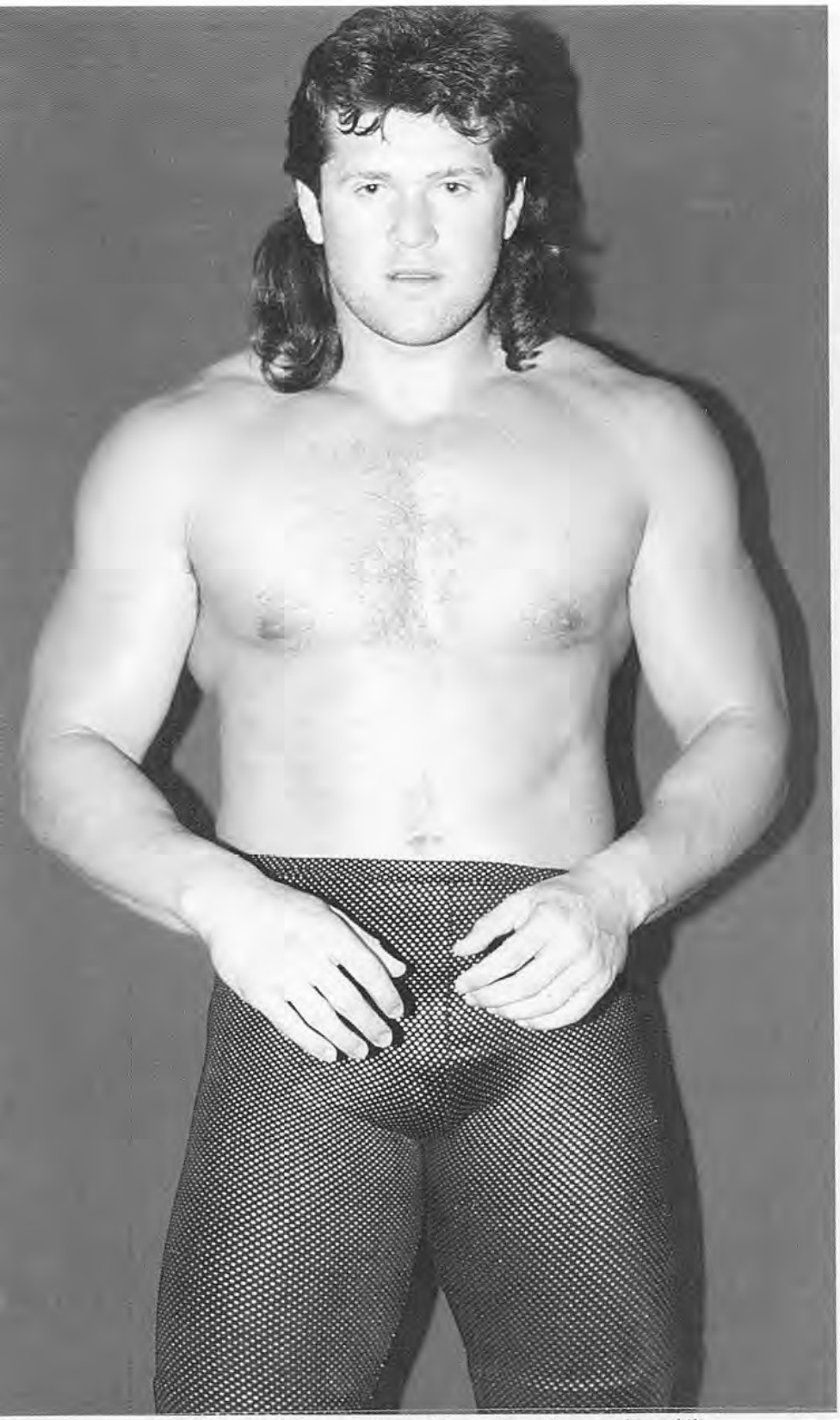
WME: What is your set training schedule?

PD: Lift weights three days on, one day rest, try and ride the bike for a half hour every other day.

WME: What would a typical day in your life be like?

PD: Get up and have breakfast, relax for awhile in the morning. Go to the gym early in the afternoon. Return home, if I have to wrestle, obviously go and wrestle,

PHOTOS BY DAWN LOCKWOOD and STEVE STOGDALE



Diamond is extremely confident about his wrestling ability.

if not, just relax at home with my girlfriend and watch a movie or go to movie or something like that.

WME: Who would you rank among your toughest opponents?

PD: I would have to say the Rockers definitely. Now that I've been wrestling in singles competition as well, Saito and Col. DeBeers are some of the other ones that I've found pretty tough.

WME: If you were offered the chance to work in the WWF or NWA, would you like to work within either of these groups?

PD: I definitely would go, but, of course, all would depend on the money, I've been in wrestling for five years now and I would not go back out on the road every day just for any kind of money, it would have to be real good money for me to go to either one of these organizations.

WME: Now that your ex-partner, Patrick Tanaka, is in the WWF, would you like to go there and get your revenge on him?

PD: In fact, Patrick Tanaka is in the WWF and I would like to be there. If I could get hold of him that would be good, however, it is not one of my biggest priorities. I would actually just like to wind up there and if I got a chance to wrestle him again I would welcome the opportunity.

WME: What is your favorite maneuver and why?

PD: My favorite would have to be the dropkick. I can use my leg strength acquired while playing soccer.

WME: Have you had any major injuries while in wrestling?

PD: Yes, I have dislocated my shoulder and have had torn ligaments.

WME: What are your views of women in the sport, be it as a wrestler, valet or manager?

PD: Women in wrestling, I suppose there is a certain place. Watching women as wrestlers, I haven't found too many in this country that actually exemplify wrestling the way it's suppose to be. They're just too feminine I guess, and their movements are not of a wrestler. I suppose as a valet or a manager they would be acceptable.

WME: What are your views on the AWA/NWA/WWF wars?

PD: I think they're pretty silly actually. That the organizations are trying to go head-to-head and they're actually cutting their own throats. I liked it way better the way it was in the past, when they had their own areas and there were more places for the wrestlers to go.

WME: What are your future goals?

PD: As anybody's it is to become a World Champion, either acquire another tag team belt or possibly a singles title somewhere.

WME: Who is your most hated opponent?

PD: Well, he's not even a wrestler actually, Diamond Dallas Page, responsible for the breakup of Badd Company.

WME: What titles have you held?

PD: The titles I've held so far are, in Texas, with Shawn Michaels, the Texas Tag Champions, with Shawn Michaels and DJ Peterson, the Texas six man champions, with Patrick Tanaka, the Mid-South Tag titles and the AWA World Tag titles.

WME: What is your opinion on who is the best tag team?

PD: Among many I think the Rockers have to be the best tag team in the world today. They are just unbelievable. Great teamwork and unbelievable moves. They are not as big as some of the other ones, like Demolition or The Road Warriors, but they get it all done with their speed.

WME: What is your opinion of your latest partner, the Trooper?

PD: Well, as you can well tell by his looks, he is a huge, big muscular guy. However, he is still a little bit inexperienced and we have not wrestled together all that much, so that causes some further problems. But

Paul has feuded with Al Perez in the WWF recently.

he has tremendous potential and, with a couple more years of seasoning, he will be one of the great competitors of the day.

WME: Compare the Trooper to Patrick Tanaka.

PD: As I have already mentioned with the Trooper, the size difference is obvious, however Tanaka has more experience, is more crafty, sneaky and knows how to get the job done.

WME: What is your opinion of the Destruction Crew, the AWA tag team champions?

PD: Well, of course, I think they got lucky in winning the titles and they also have Johnny Valiant to help them. They are a couple of guys with bright futures, I feel. I don't think that they have chosen the right path to pursue their careers. However, they have chosen it and they have to live with it. They are still quite inexperienced and I think that will eventually cost them to lose their titles. In the future, when they get more experience and they acquire another title, they will probably be able to hang onto it a little better than they can now.

WME: Are you interested in wrestling for a World Title?

PD: Of course I am interested in wrestling for a World Title.

WME: Why do you feel that you have not received a chance to do so?

PD: I don't know, I have beaten some of the top competitors and top contenders, but the promoters just haven't been able to work out the details for me to have a World Title shot.

WME: You mentioned that you were a professional soccer player, why did you become a professional wrestler then, or what got you interested in being one?

PD: After my soccer career, well the whole league folded and I still wanted to stay involved in some sort of professional sport and as a way of making a living. I had some friends in professional wrestling and had started watching it a lot. I thought I could be successful in it because I consider myself to be a pretty good athlete in different sports.

WME: You were part of a very succesful tag team, Badd Company, why do you feel the team broke up?

PD: My feelings about that, I think Diamond Dallas Page is mostly responsible for that. I don't blame Tanaka as much because he was swayed by the lifestyle that Dallas Page showed him and he swayed his opinion to stick by him rather than go with me and we had been together three years prior to that.

WME: You have had a match against your former partner, Patrick Tanaka, tell us about it.

PD: As far as the match with Tanaka goes, I knew what he could do, he knew what I could do because we had been together for so long, so it was really hard to outsmart each other. It was a very tough match and I found out what I knew all along, that Patrick Tanaka is one tough individual.

WME: How do you feel now about your former manager Diamond Dallas Page?

PD: I don't have anything good to say about him. He, in a way, took advantage of our success. Sure he may have helped our visibility a little bit but he basically rode on our coattails. We were the people that got in the ring and got the job done night after night and he would stay in the spotlight.

WME: You and Patrick Tanaka were often compared to the Midnight Express, you wrestled them once, without a decisive ending, in Ohio in 1989. If you had a match with them that had to end in pinfall or submission what do you think would have happened?

PD: Well, I do believe that Patrick and I would have won. It would be a hard fought battle but I think that it would definitely be a long match and, with our youth, our endurance is much higher than their's, I do believe, in the end, Badd Company would win.

WME: What is your opinion of the Midnight Express?

PD: They have been together for so long and work very well together. They have many great moves and can always count on Jim Cornette to be at ringside to point out anything that they might have missed in their opponent's weak spots. Jim Cornette has helped them very much in their careers and I feel that they are one of the best teams.

WME: Please finish this sentence, Paul Diamond is a man who. . .

PD: Paul Diamond is a man who knows what he wants out of life and goes after it.

WME: When wrestling fans see you in person what should they expect?

PD: They will see an individual that gives everything he has for each match, I go out there with winning in my mind. I have a positive attitude towards the fans now, I know I haven't always had that feeling but I know now that the fans can help me when I am down and I count on them and I want them to know they can now count on me to give it everything I've got to win.

WME: To finish this interview that I hope has helped your fans to see that you are a caring individual who will get what he deserves from wrestling and his life, can you put yourself into one word?

PD: Sure, I would say that I am self-assured.■

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TOM ZENK & "FLYIN'" BRIAN

Who Will Desert Whom?

by JIM ARONSON

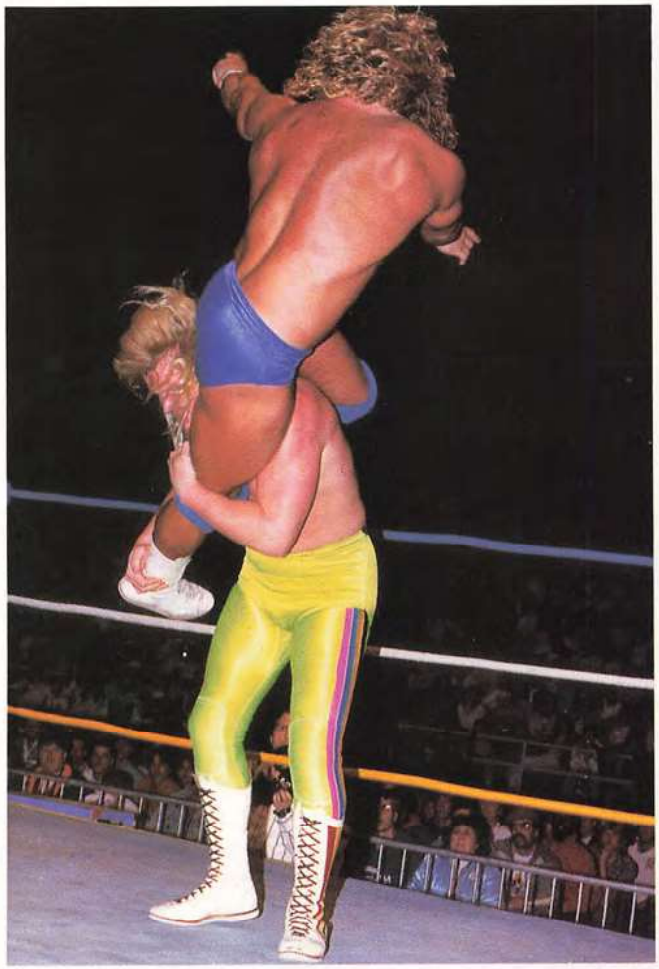
"Flyin' " Brian Pillman and Tom Zenk are the N.W.A. U.S. Tag Team Champions, but trouble may loom. Zenk never stays with one promotion for long periods of time and Pillman has been doing too much work for his team and taking severe beatings. Also, there are rumors Ric Flair would like Pillman back on his side. So, the big question is, who will desert whom first, Pillman or Zenk??

Tom Zenk and Brian Pillman. These two wrestlers have taken very different paths to the same destination: the NWA. While they currently hold the U.S. Tag Team Championship, their differences as individuals outnumber their similarities. One is a survivor; the other is a deserter.

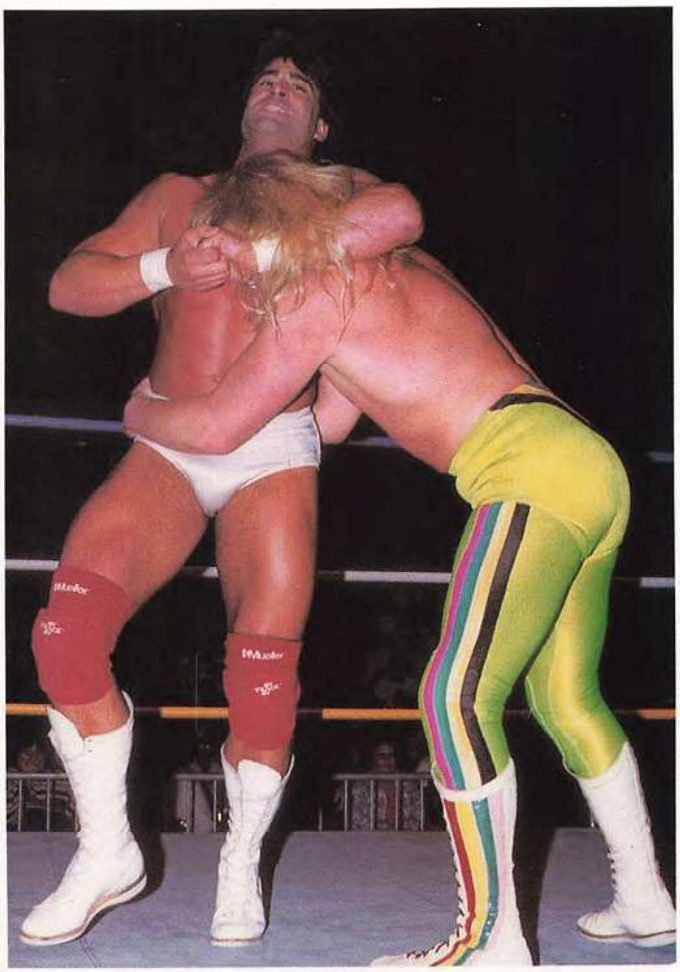
"Flyin' " Brian is a high flyer. When involved in a match, the air is his territory. Whether it's flying dropkicks or leaping clotheslines, Pillman is a definite threat if you're not looking up. One NWA grappler, who didn't want his identity revealed, said of Pillman: "The man is always flying from somewhere. I turn around, and he's coming over the ropes with a clothesline. I get up, and he's coming off the top rope with a flying body press! Who said man couldn't fly?"

The Z-Man is also an intimidating force in the ring. Zenk has an excellent dropkick, clothesline, as well as superior strength and agility. While he and Pillman are very similar, wrestlers in the NWA have noticed the difference between the two. "Pillman seems to be the workhorse of the team," said one NWA wrestler. "Zenk's a great wrestler, but Pillman definitely does the majority of the work in the ring," said another.

Pillman and Zenk are the current NWA U.S. Tag Team Champions, but for how long?



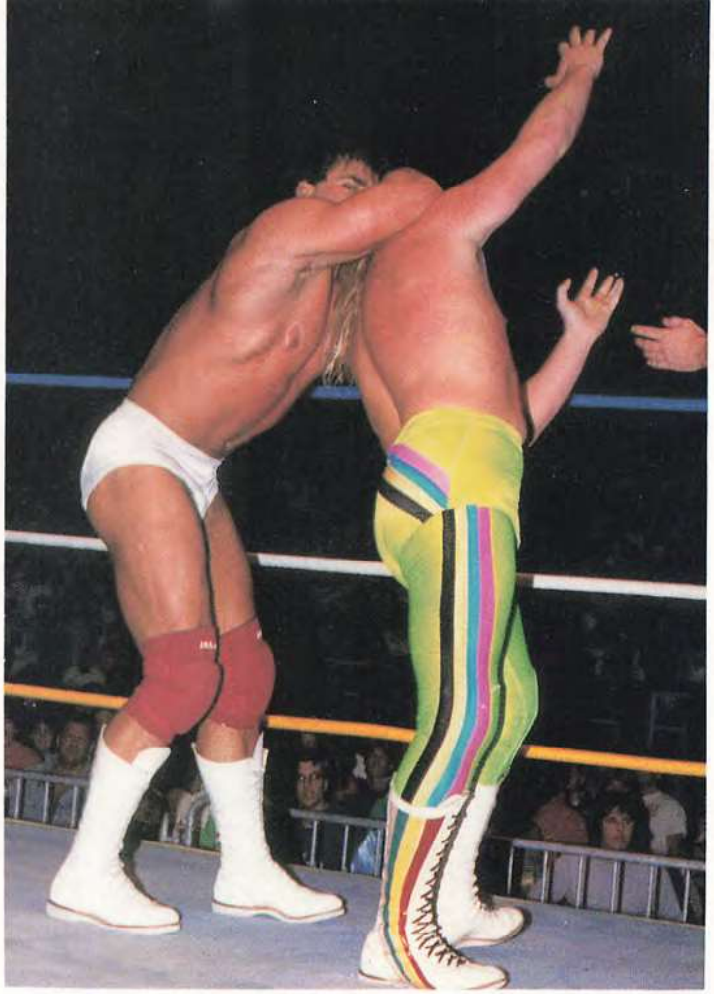
Pillman administers a flying head scissors to Bobby Eaton.



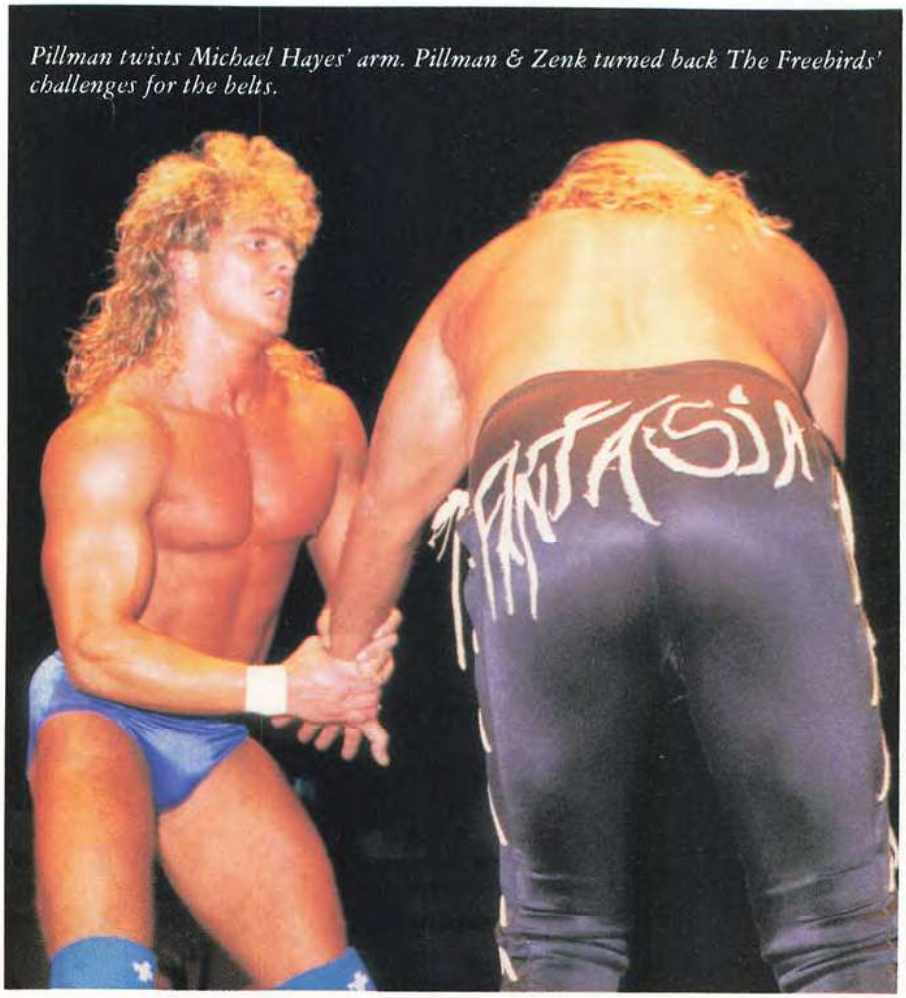
Zenk has Eaton trapped in a headlock.

PHOTOS BY JOE ZANOLLE, DEBRA MOSER and ED RUSSINO

Pillman has Jimmy Jam Garvin trapped in an armlock.



Zenk puts the sleeper on "Beautiful Bobby".



Pillman twists Michael Hayes' arm. Pillman & Zenk turned back The Freebirds' challenges for the belts.

Apparently, these opinions are beginning to prove to be the truth. Although the duo was very impressive in capturing the U.S. belts, the polish is wearing off, and the tarnish is beginning to show, in the form of injuries to "Flyin' " Brian.

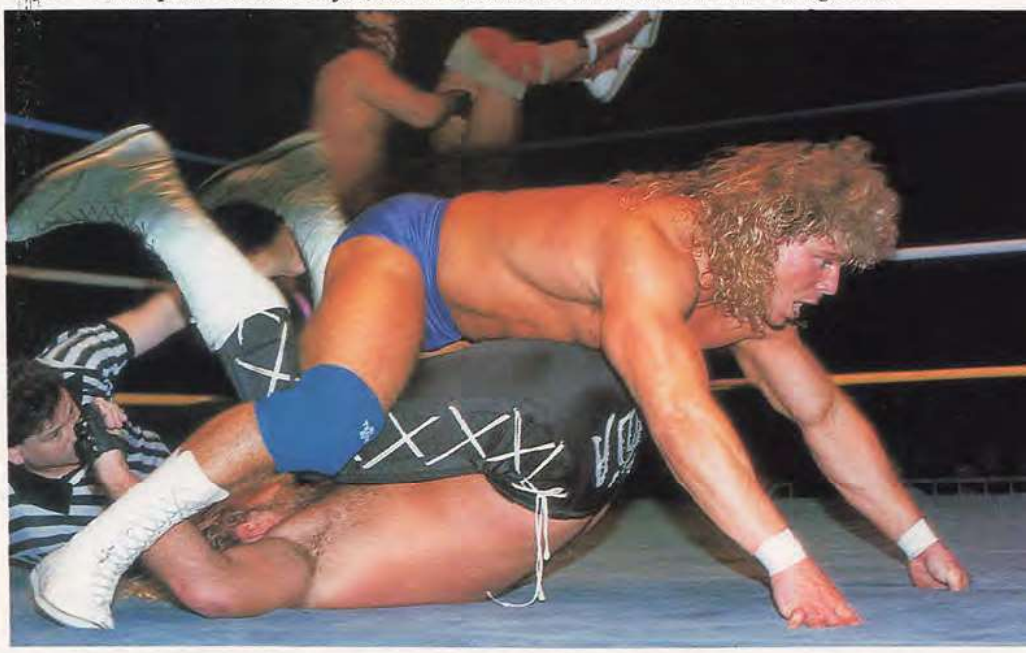
While wrestling the Midnight Express, Zenk was knocked out of the ring, leaving his partner alone—with Bobby Eaton, Stan Lane, and Jim Cornette and his John McEnroe tennis racket. Bent over Stan Lane's knee, Cornette's racket found its target on Pillman—his throat and the larynx within. Pillman would leave the ring with a ruptured larynx—and no championship belt.

Not only did Cornette and the Express maul Pillman, they also stole the U.S. tag team belts, claiming they were being "ripped off", and the belts were deservedly their's. The NWA quickly took action, fining the team $1000 a day until the belts were returned. "$1000? That's just a phone call home to Mother," Cornette said.

Zenk and Pillman did jump the Midnight Express in a similar manner and regained the belts, not more than two weeks later. but the big question is: when Pillman was getting beat up, when the belts were getting stolen, where was Tom Zenk? Why is Pillman getting the share of the injuries? Perhaps those NWA wrestlers were correct in their assessment that Pillman is the workhorse who does

Pillman clamps down hard on Bobby Eaton's arm.

"Flyin'" Brian pins Michael Hayes, while Zenk and Garvin battle in the background.



the majority of the work, and apparently, gets the share of the injuries.

Pillman has been a tag champ before. In 1988, he held the Stampede International Tag title with Bruce Hart. The team was a dominating force, each sharing the brunt of the effort. While in Canada, Pillman also wrestled in singles matches, impressing all, a tremendous effort for such a youngster. Clearly, Pillman could either tag or dominate as a singles star.

Pillman entered the NWA in 1989 setting his immediate goals on Lex Luger and the U.S. singles title. Pillman came within inches of defeating Luger, while dominating every matchup with "The Total Package". Unable to unseat Luger from his belt, and friends with then fan favorite, Ric Flair, Pillman settled for the safe atmosphere of tag team wrestling.

Zenk has been around—a lot. He held the Pacific Northwest title, and then the PNW tag title with Scott Doring. This was early in Zenk's career, and experts were already picking him as a future world champion. It was here that Zenk would set a precedent for his entire career: desertion. Zenk left Doring for the AWA and greener pastures

Staying in the AWA for less than a few months, Zenk headed for Canada, where he teamed with long-time friend Rick Martel. The team was so successful that they went to the Big Show: the WWF.

In the WWF, Zenk and Pillman, the Can-Am Connection, dominated every team they wrestled. They were too fast and agile for any team they faced. The Can-Ams were headed for the titles—fast.

Then, Zenk did what he has always done—packed his bags and left. Martel was left without a partner, and his title hopes were just a memory. Zenk now claims it was Martel's ego which broke the team up. But the facts remain: Four wrestling areas in three years. . . Zenk was slowly challenging Bam Bam Bigelow for frequent-flyer mileage.

Back in the AWA, Zenk didn't even stay three weeks. Competing in the championship battle royal, Zenk was left with Larry Zbyszko and would be eliminated by the future champion. After a few rematches, Zenk's bags were packed again, and he was off to yet another federation. His total was up to five areas in three years.

In the NWA, Zenk did not find Pillman right away. Pillman began teaming with "Big" Scott Hall, but soon realized that their abilities did not mesh. Once Zenk and Pillman found each other, it would become a team that worked like clockwork.

The U.S. tag tournament was a breeze for the duo. Beginning with Lord Littlebrook's Royal Family, and concluding with the Freebirds, the team had the belts within a month.

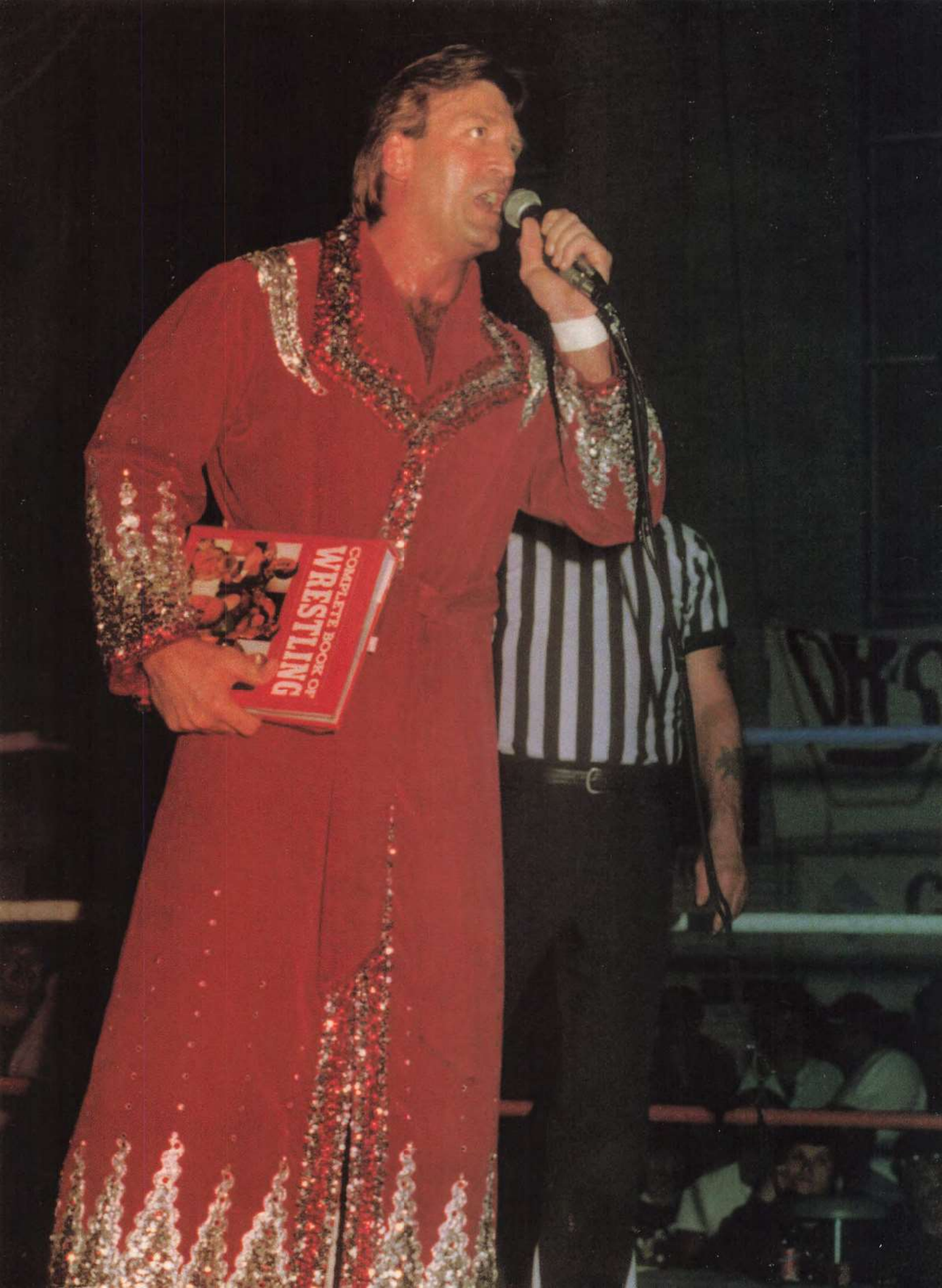
If this team is to have continued success, Zenk simply must stay put. But why does he keep moving in the first place? Bam Bam Bigelow moves around because, like a mercenary, he goes to the highest bidder. Where the cash is, Bigelow can be found. The same can be said for Stan Hansen and Abdullah the Butcher. But surely, we can't rank Zenk in the same category as these awesome monsters. Perhaps Zenk lacks the quality known as "killer instinct". That would explain why he retreats from major challenges, such as the WWF tag titles, the AWA world title and others. Of course, now he has a major title, but look at his progress.

In the few months he has been a co-champion, he has allowed his partner to get attacked and his belts stolen. Unfortunately, this lack of killer instinct will not be good for the team's future success or Pillman's future health.

So what lies ahead for Zenk and Pillman? They can expect repeated challenges (and attacks) from the Midnight Express. Other challengers will include Doom, the Minnesota Wrecking Crew II, the Samoans, Cactus Jack and Kevin Sullivan, and any other rulebreaking team looking to get a piece of this young, good-looking pair.

How long will they hold the belts? That answer lies solely on the head of Tom Zenk. Pillman should keep his eyes on his partner for little signs. These signs include packed bags, missed matches and unanswered phone calls. One day, Zenk may do what he has done before: desert his partner. Pillman may find himself standing in the ring, alone, facing two huge opponents who will relish in destroying "Flyin' " Brian two-on-one. Meanwhile, Zenk will be on a plane somewhere, heading to his sixth federation in four years.

How long will Zenk and Pillman hold the U.S. Tag belts? Just ask yourself how long it will be until Tom Zenk skips town. . .It's the same answer.■


COMPLETE BOOK OF
WRESTLING

"MR. WONDERFUL'S" Miraculous Return To Wrestling

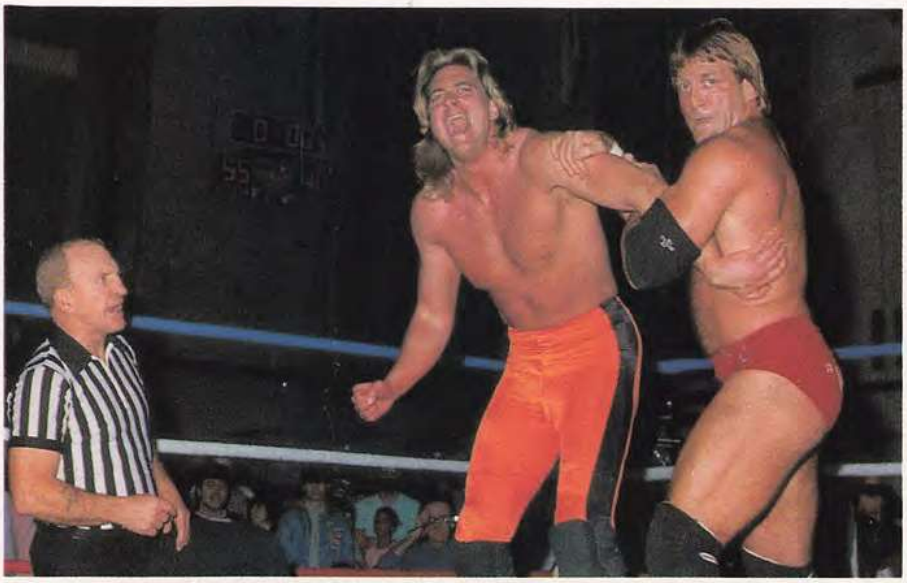
by KEITH CURTIS

After a long absence from wrestling due to injury, Paul "Mr. Wonderful" Orndorff has returned to the ring. He has been very successful, still unbeaten, since his return. His challengers have been tough and he is looking forward to tougher challengers (including World Champions) in the future.

Less than two years after a rumor spread quickly around the wrestling world that Paul Orndorff had died, "Mr. Wonderful" has returned to the ring and is quickly moving up the independent ladder of success and drawing huge crowds wherever he appears.

Wrestling fans, experts and other promoters were skeptical last year when it was announced that Paul "Mr. Wonderful" Orndorff had signed several contracts, with various independent promoters around the country, to return to wrestling. While wrestling in the WWF in 1987, Orndorff severely injured his shoulder. He could barely lift his arm above his head, which is critical for a man such as Paul who uses a lot of power moves in his offense. Soon, the injury got too painful and he could no longer wrestle. The WWF, as is their usual custom, ignored his disappearance and acted as if this popular fan favorite never existed. In less than six months, a rumor raged through the wrestling world that Paul Orndorff had died. An obituary on a "Paul Orndorff" had apparently been printed in a Connecticut daily newspaper and wrestling fans in Connecticut thought it was wrestling's Paul Orndorff who had died. In actuality, "Mr. Wonderful" was in serene retirement in Georgia and operating several bowling alleys in the southeast. However, despite printed denials of the rumor, many fans thought Paul was dead.

The longer he stayed away from competition, the better he felt. His arm would never be 100%, but it improved enough to where he could maintain a workout ritual, though not one as strenuous as the routine he had used during his wrestling prime. The more he worked out, the more his urge to compete returned and, in 1989,



Orndorff has Wayne Bloom trapped in an arm lock.

Paul bears down on the arm lock as Bloom screams in agony.

PHOTOS BY JOE ZANOLLE

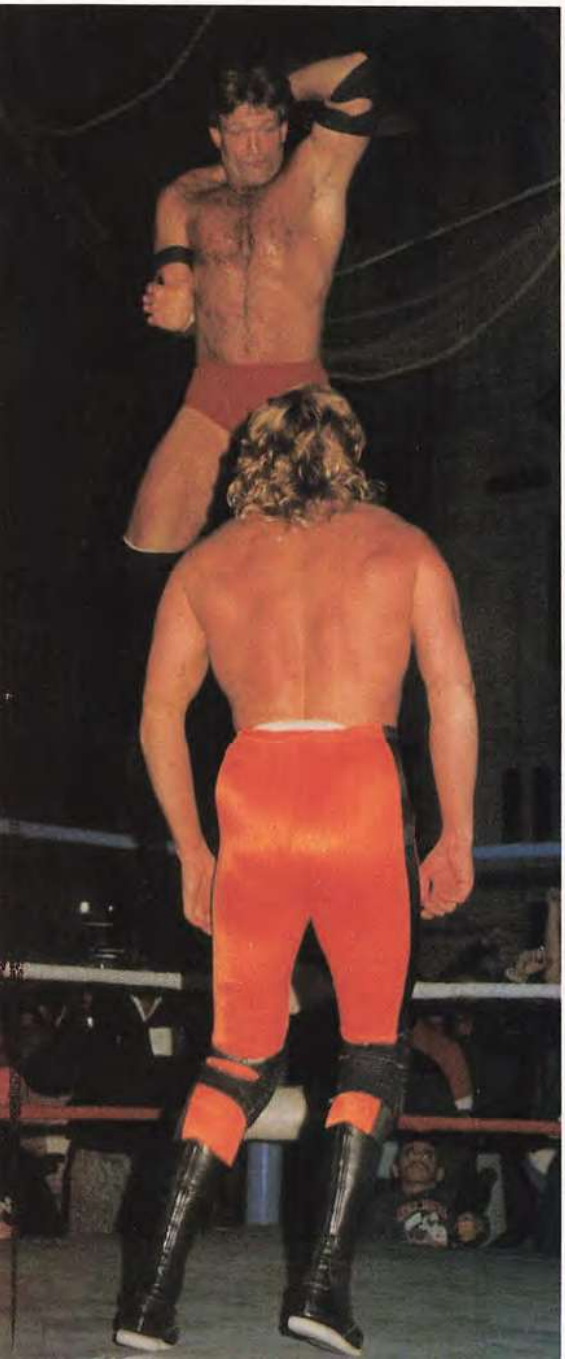
Orndorff started to contact small promoters for work, hoping he could regain the skills which made him a superstar in wrestling in the mid-80's.

A group called "Great Lakes Wrestling", based in Cleveland, Ohio, got "Mr. Wonderful" to sign a contract first. Orndorff hadn't been looking for an easy opponent to begin his comeback, which is what many promoters had offered him. He was looking for a main event caliber match right away. The Cleveland promoters got him one, USWA Texas Heavyweight Champion, Kerry Von Erich. A large crowd braved a snowstorm and cold weather to see "Mr. Wonderful" return to the ring. Orndorff has to be the Dr. Jekyll/Mr. Hyde of the ring, one day he can be a hated rulebreaker, the next a fan favorite. In Cleveland, he broke all the rules against Kerry, but, ironically, won the match on a DQ, when Kerry threw him over the top rope. Orndorff demanded the Texas belt, for in the USWA titles can change hands on a DQ, however, Ohio Athletic Commission rules were in effect this evening and the title did not change hands.

Apparently, Orndorff was satisfied with his first match in the comeback, for he started negotiating with other promoters on the east coast for more matches. With the holiday season on tap, his return was put on hold for awhile as many small promoters find it too risky to run shows around the holidays. In February, "Mr. Wonderful" returned to the east coast, the area of his greatest success, when he wrestled Wayne "the Train" Bloom, one-half of the AWA World Tag Team Champions, The Destruction Crew, in Jersey City, N.J. A sellout crowd was in attendance to welcome their hero back home. They went home happy, as Paul Orndorff won the second match of his comeback against Bloom. More matches followed quickly after that. Less than two weeks later, he was scheduled for two "Galaxy Wrestling Federation" shows, which were held in central Pennsylvania. On these shows Orndorff had a manager, Mr. Royce Profit, and he was a rulebreaker. I was able to attend the show held in Shamokin, Pa. in which Orndorff was scheduled to fight Nikita Koloff, another tough competitor on the comeback trail.

Orndorff seemed happy to be back in the ring, his first words, when he entered the arena, were "I guess the rumors of my death were greatly exaggerated!" When I asked him why he had returned to the mat after so long an absence, Paul said, "It is very simple, I am an athlete and I missed

Paul comes off the top rope with an elbow smash to Bloom's head.



"Mr. Wonderful" pins Wayne Bloom to successfully continue his comeback.

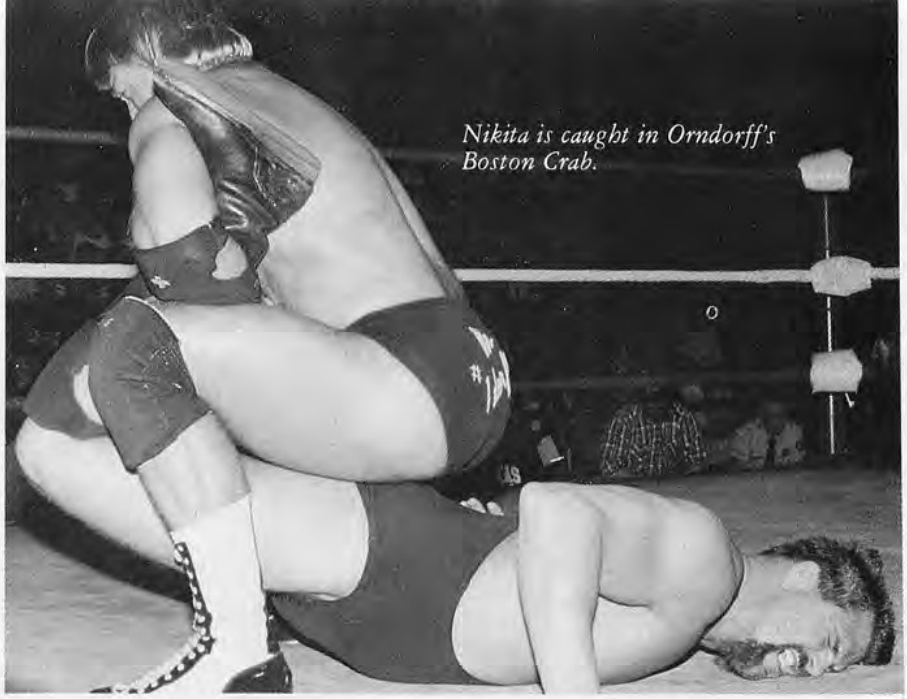
The Dr. Jekyll/Mr. Hyde of wrestling has Nikita Koloff trapped in a head lock.

the competition. I don't need the money because my outside interests are very successful, but once you hear the roars of the crowd, it's hard to get them out of your system."

Another large crowd was in attendance in Shamokin to see Orndorff face off with "The Russian Nightmare". Both men had their followers, although Nikita was definitely the fan favorite this evening. The match turned into a brawl and left the ring, and, as the two gladiators were fighting at ringside, the referee counted them both out and the match was declared a draw, the first blemish on the comeback trail for "Mr. Wonderful". Then Paul began arguing with his manager, Profit, and administered a severe beating to the roly-poly big mouth, as the fans went wild.

No, "Mr. Wonderful" bears little resemblance to the "Mr. Wonderful" of old. His physique is not as ripped as it had been during his prime, because, for a long period of time, he was unable to work out due to his injury, but he has an adequate physique. He weighs a good 25-35 lbs. less than he did in the WWF, but the weight loss resulted in quicker ring speed, so although he may have lost one advantage (strength) he might have had on his opposition, he has gained a different advantage (speed). Orndorff still wrestles as hard as he ever did, and he was one of the best, never hesitating one minute because he knows any slight delay in his attack could give his opponent the advantage. It seems as if he is not worried about reinjuring himself, because he wrestles as if he had never been injured. And, the comeback attempt is paying off, too. Major wrestling promotions, such as the NWA, AWA and WWF, are beginning to notice that "Mr. Wonderful" has returned to the ring and are scouting his matches to see if he is still good enough to be a major wrestling star. On the eve of his biggest test, five matches in five days in late March, word has been received that the NWA talent scouts will be at a show in Philadelphia, Pa. to watch Orndorff wrestle an old rival from way back, "The Universal Heartthrob" Austin Idol, who will have Paul E. Dangerously in his corner. This will be "Mr. Wonderful's" toughest test, as both he and Idol will be out to impress the NWA, and, with Dangerously in Idol's corner, Orndorff better watch his back!

Paul "Mr. Wonderful" Orndorff has returned to wrestling, as good as he ever was. He is looking to make a name for himself, once again, in a sport where he was once, and could be again, a big star. The fans are happy he is back, "Mr. Wonderful" is happy to be back and the sport of wrestling will ultimately be better because he is back. Good luck, "Mr. Wonderful", wrestling needs you!■



Nikita is caught in Orndorff's Boston Crab.

Austin Idol failed in his attempt to test "Mr. Wonderful's" strength.

"Mr. Wonderful" chokes Idol with the ring microphone cord.

OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS

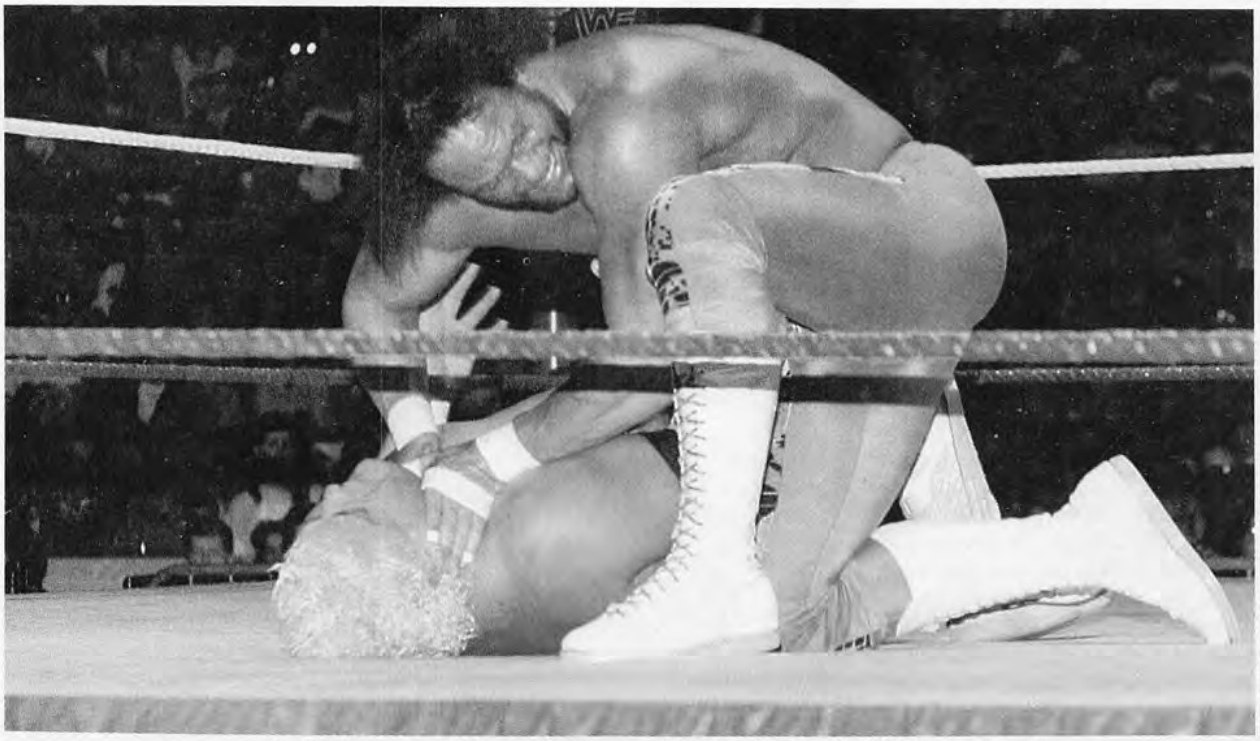


PHOTO BY JOE ZANOLLE

Randy Savage and Dusty Rhodes are fighting for the WWF's "Kingdom".

WRESTLING'S TOP TWENTY (as of 4/9/90)

1. **Ric Flair** NWA World Champion
2. **The Ultimate Warrior** WWF World Champion
3. **Lex Luger** NWA U.S. Champion
4. **Hulk Hogan** #1 contender NWA Title
5. **Jerry Lawler** USWA World Champion
6. **Kerry Von Erich** #1 contender USWA Title
7. **Larry Zbyszko** AWA World Champion
8. **Curt Hennig** #2 contender WWF Title
9. **Dusty Rhodes** #3 contender WWF Title
10. **Randy Savage** #4 contender WWF Title
11. **Arn Anderson** NWA World TV Title
12. **Sting** #2 contender NWA Title
13. **Mr. Saito** #1 contender AWA Title
14. **"Big" Van Vader** IWGP World Champion
15. **Nikita Koloff** #2 contender AWA Title
16. **"Rowdy" Roddy Piper** #5 contender WWF Title
17. **Ted DiBiase** Million Dollar Champion
18. **Steve Williams** World's Toughest Wrestler
19. **Tully Blanchard** #3 contender AWA Title
20. **The Big Boss Man** #6 contender WWF Title

TAG TEAMS

1. **Rick & Scott Steiner** NWA World Champions
2. **The Road Warriors** #1 contenders NWA Title
3. **Demolition** WWF World Champions
4. **The Destruction Crew** AWA World Champions
5. **Brian Pillman & Tom Zenk** NWA U.S. World Champions
6. **The Hart Foundation** #1 contenders WWF Title
7. **The Midnight Express** #1 contenders U.S. Title
8. **The Southern Rockers** USWA World Champions
9. **Doom** #2 contenders NWA Title
10. **The Rockers** #2 contenders WWF Title

OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS

THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR

WWF
World Champion: The Ultimate Warrior
1. Hulk Hogan
2. Curt Hennig
3. Dusty Rhodes
4. Randy Savage
5. "Rowdy" Roddy Piper
6. Ted DiBiase
7. The Big Boss Man
8. Rick Rude
9. Earthquake
10. Jake Roberts

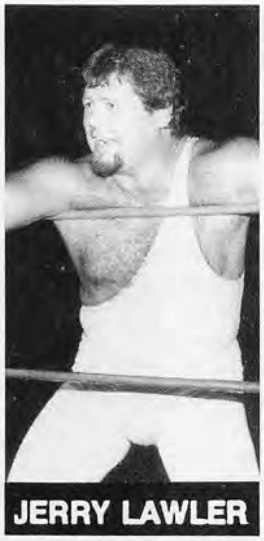
RIC FLAIR

NWA
World Champion: Ric Flair
1. Lex Luger
2. Arn Anderson
3. Sting
4. Mike Rotunda
5. Norman
6. Brian Pillman
7. Scott Steiner
8. Bam Bam Bigelow
9. Eddie Gilbert
10. "Mean" Mark Callas

AWA
World Champion: Larry Zbyszko
1. Mr. Saito
2. Nikita Koloff
3. Tully Blanchard
4. Sgt. Slaughter
5. Col. DeBeers
6. "Yukon" John Nord
7. The Russian Brute
8. Baron Von Raschke
9. The Trooper
10. D.J. Peterson

LARRY ZBYSZKO

USWA
World Champion: Jerry Lawler
1. Kerry Von Erich
2. Bill Dundee
3. Jeff Jarrett
4. Chris Adams
5. Eric Embry
6. Chris Champion
7. Dustin Rhodes
8. Kevin Von Erich
9. Billy Joe Travis
10. Jimmy Jack Funk


JERRY LAWLER

RANDY SAVAGE

STING

MANAGERS
1. Bobby "The Brain" Heenan
2. Jim Cornette
3. Paul Ellering
4. Paul E. Dangerously
5. Jimmy Hart
6. Scandor Akbar
7. Teddy "Sugar Ray" Long
8. Christopher Love
9. "Diamond" Dallas Page
10. Gary Hart

WOMEN
1. Misty Blue Simms
2. Debbie Combs
3. Sensational Sherri
4. Candi Divine
5. Susan Sexton
6. Heidi Lee Morgan
7. Magnificent Mimi
8. Madusa Miceli
9. Velvet McIntyre
10. Linda Dallas

MOST HATED
1. Ric Flair
2. Randy Savage
3. Curt Hennig
4. Ted DiBiase
5. Jerry Lawler
6. Rick Rude
7. Arn Anderson
8. Larry Zbyszko
9. Earthquake
10. Rick Martel

MOST POPULAR
1. Sting
2. The Ultimate Warrior
3. Hulk Hogan
4. Lex Luger
5. "Rowdy" Roddy Piper
6. Kerry Von Erich
7. Norman
8. Dusty Rhodes
9. Brian Pillman
10. Brutus Beefcake

THE LAST PAGE

The final word this month from WRESTLING'S MAIN EVENT!

INTRODUCING THE LADIES PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

by SANDY KREBS

With many of the men's wrestling promotions falling by the wayside, it is good to report that there are some promoters daring enough to attempt to make a go of innovative ideas in this sport. And, for the benefit of the many lady wrestlers in America, most of whom have been shut out of a job by the major U.S. wrestling promotions, some of these promotions feature lady wrestling only.

One of these promotions is the Ladies Professional Wrestling Association, promoted by Tor Berg and based in Laughlin, Nevada. Mr. Berg has signed the best women wrestlers in the business to work for him and has signed an extensive network of TV stations around the country to cover his promotion. Do not confuse the L.P.W.A. with other female "wrestling" promotions such as G.L.O.W. and P.O.W.W., two promotions which had as much to do with wrestling as the Rev. Jerry Falwell has to do with Penthouse Magazine. This promotion features wrestling and nothing but wrestling, no glitz and glamour from models and actresses posing as legitimate lady wrestlers here!!

Misty Blue Simms & Heidi Lee Morgan, are the LPWA Tag Champs.

LPWA announcer, Boni Blackstone, interviews top contender, Bambi.

PHOTOS BY SEAN O'LEARY

"Superstar" Susan Sexton, a seasoned veteran of the matsport from Australia, is the L.P.W.A. World Champion. She is facing tough challenges from The Beast, Magnificent Mimi, The Goddess, Madusa Miceli, former AWA World Champion, Lailani Kai, former WWF World Champion, Shelly Francis, Bambi, "Exotic" Adrian Street's valet, Miss Linda, a young Japanese, Meliah Hosaka and Rusty Foxx.

Team America, Misty Blue Simms (former NWA World Champion) and Heidi Lee Morgan are the L.P.W.A. Tag Team Champions. The top contenders for those belts are The Nasty Girls (Kat LeRoux and Linda Dallas), former WWF World Tag Team Champions, Judy Martin and Leilani Kai (the Glamour Girls), Black Venus and The Bad Girl (Bad, Black and Beautiful), Little Mo and Big Mo (Locomotion), former G.L.O.W. and P.O.W.W. champion, Tina Ferrari and her partner, Bambi and Jan Flame and Brittani Brown.

In an interesting twist, the tag team champions and their #1 contenders are not eligible to wrestle for the singles title. At this time Team America and Kat LeRoux and Linda Dallas, although they should, and would, get matches against Susan Sexton because of past successes in the ring, cannot wrestle for the L.P.W.A. World Title due to their success as tag teams.

The L.P.W.A. can be seen on Cable TV networks around the country. Some of the sports-oriented stations carrying the L.P.W.A. include: M.S.G., New England Sports Channel, Sunshine Network, Prime Sports, TCI Sports, HTS, Pacific Sports, Southern Sports Network, Midwest Sports and the promotion is negotiating with ESPN and TBS for timespots on their stations also.

Women's wrestling is very popular in Japan and, at one time, was very popular in North America due to the WWF's "Rock and Wrestling Connection" with Wendi Richter, Cyndi Lauper, David Wolf and Capt. Lou Albano. Due to the efforts of Mr. Berg and other people in wrestling who want to see ladies wrestling, this form of the sport is making a comeback now.

Ladies wrestling is fast-paced, action-packed and full of excitement. Give it a look, you'll like it!■

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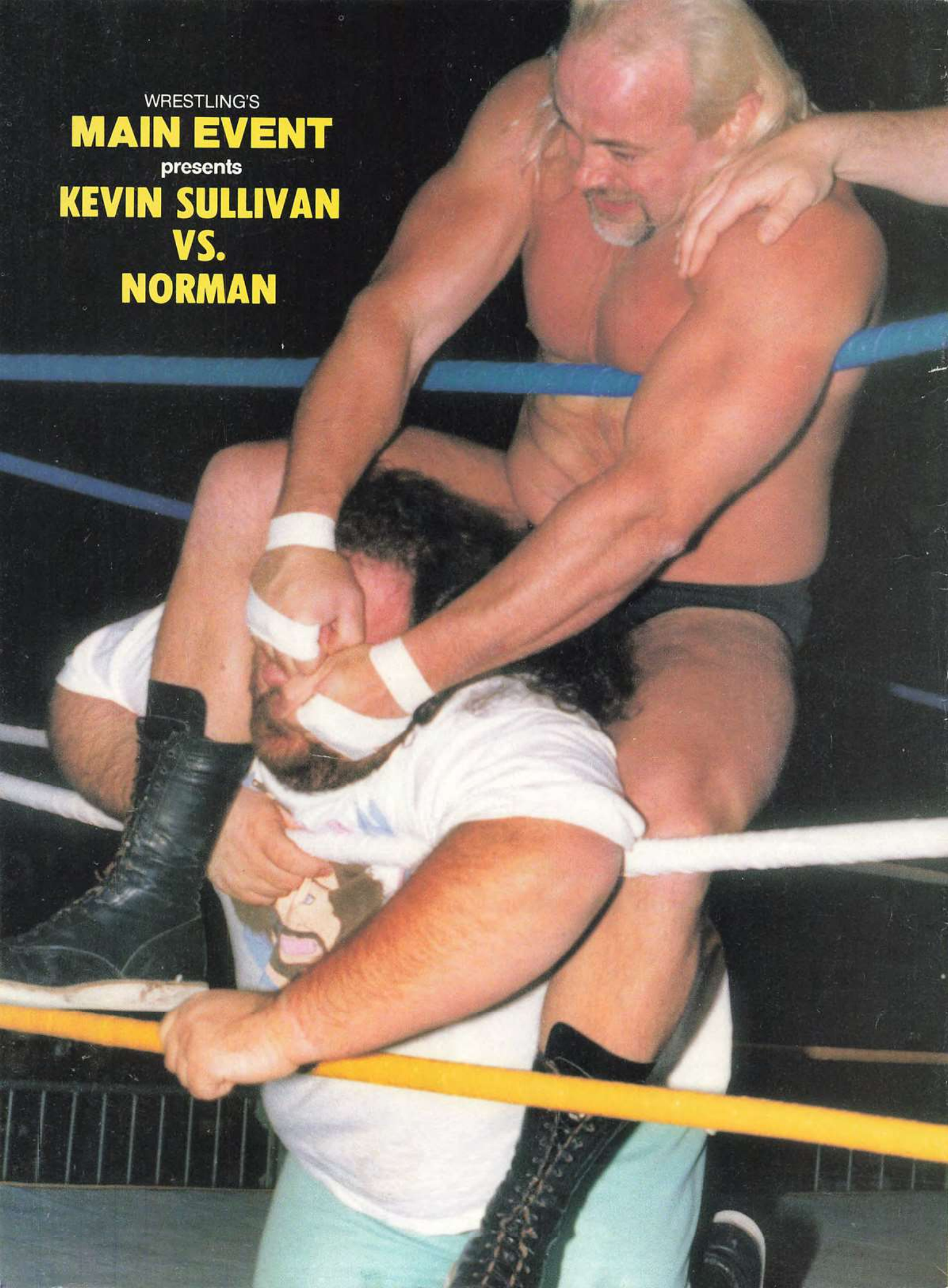
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